LENNOX AND ADDINGTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

PAPERS AND RECORDS

VOL. XIII

THE NAPANEE STANDARD
1866

COMPILED AND EDITED
By M. [illegible] HERRINGTON M. A.

NAPANEE, ONTARIO
PUBLISHED BY THE SOCIETY
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PUBLICATIONS OF
LENNOX AND ADDINGTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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Vol. IV	The Casey Scrap Books (Part) II.	June 14, 1913
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Vol V	The Bell and Laing Papers By C. M. Warner and W S. Herrington	March 14, 1914
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Vol XIII.	The Napanee Standard, 1865 by E Eleanor Herrington	May 20, 1928

INTRODUCTION.

Volume XII of the Papers and Records of the Society presented a series of extracts from The Napanee Standard for the years 1862 and 1863 dealing with the leading questions of the day. Very few issues for the years 1864 and 1865 have been preserved but fortunately the file for the year 1866 is complete. In the following pages the writer has attempted to present an analysis of the leading editorials and news items of that eventful year. The record is necessarily incomplete as it simply reflects the views of the Editor from week to week. It however will now serve a useful purpose in depicting the local reaction to those events and will enable us to reconstruct to some extent the life and thought of the people of our country in that interesting period of its history.

M. ELEANOR HERRINGTON

Napanee, Ont.
May 30th, 1928

Extracts from
The Napanee Standard 1866

The subject which engrossed the thoughts and frayed the nerves of Canadians at the beginning of the year 1866 was the threatened Fenian invasion of Canada. Throughout the United States, Irish "patriots" and sympathizers were organized into Fenian "circles" directed by an official appropriately designated as the "centre". Moreover the recent suspension of hostilities between the North and the South had left a dangerous element at large, the adventurers who always attach themselves to any war and these men were easily persuaded to swell the numbers of the Fenians. At the headquarters in New York all the machinery of government was set up under the presidency of John O'Mahony and a council of delegates was held under the grandiloquent name of "Congress of the Irish Republic". The pretentious and magnificent schemes of the Fenians tempted many Canadians to regard them with contempt and to belittle the real danger as attitude reflected in the editorial of March 8th.

FENIANISM

> There have been many persons in Canada who allowed themselves to be kept in continual dread during the past winter lest there should be a Fenian invasion of our fair land, to be followed by a scene of plunder and bloodshed unexampled in our history. We confess that we never yet could see what ground there existed for such apprehensions, and more than once gave expression to those convictions through our columns. As the spring has now so far advanced that there are no probabilities of parties crossing the ice and vexing our frontier towns perhaps the apprehensions of the more timid ones may die away again.
>
> What possible designs there could have been of a Fenian invasion of Canada we never yet could see

The scheme with which "Gen. Sweeny has amused many an audience is that Canada will first be conquered, and the English driven into the sea, and then having a country at their own, they would fit out privateer ships and men-of-war, and drive England's navy and commerce from the seas, and after that, we suppose, they would procure ships and transport, unmolested across the Atlantic an army large enough to liberate Ireland and set up the 'glorious republic.'"

Anyone looking at this programme for a single moment would question the sanity of its originators unless he understood the circumstances under which it was uttered. It has been pretty generally understood that these enthusiastic war meetings, and these brave war speeches, were all for the purpose of commanding the ready funds. This money once collected and we know what generally became of it. O'Mahony and his party provide themselves with a beautiful palace, and are surrounded by a retinue of servants at an expense of nearly $100,000 per year; and we suppose the Sweeny-Roberts party are not much less extravagant in their desires. All this must come in the shape of voluntary contributions from the hard earnings of the labouring classes. When funds are low and new contributions are required it is necessary to get up something pretty sensational and that looks like real work in order to 'raise the wind' again, and an invasion of Canada without a moment's previous warning is one of the best schemes for that purpose that can be brought forward.

Many were inclined to think at one time that so much apparently earnest talk really meant something but as it has been freely indulged in for the past two years, without the first attempt being made to carry the threat into execution, there can be but few left who suppose anything was ever meant by the leaders."

But the suspension of the Habeas Corpus Act in Ireland had increased the activity of the Fenians in America, and it was feared that a demonstration was being planned for St. Patrick's Day.

THE FENIAN EXCITEMENT (Mar. 15)

It is probable the excitement in respect to the Fenians is now at its climax. During the entire winter vague rumors have been afloat that something dreadful might be expected from these desperadoes but it was not until last week that the Government was in possession of such information as made them feel justified in taking the prompt steps they have at last decided upon.

We are not yet informed from what sources their information was gleaned or of its precise character but the fact that the volunteers throughout the Province have by the Governor's Proclamation, been called to arms and held ready for any emergency goes to show that they had reason to believe something more than mere threats were intended

It is reported that Secretary Seward has assured the British Minister at Washington that no violation of the neutrality laws will be allowed by the United States. Why is it then that these threats and demonstrations are allowed with impunity? Our own conviction is that the United States government will yet have reason to regret having allowed these men to go so far as they have as they are just about as likely to turn on the Americans themselves, as to make any real attempt at either Ireland or these Provinces

When the volunteers of the province were called out, the citizens of Napanee realized that the only company in the county was that under the command of Captain Sweetman at Adolphustown Accordingly we find in the issue of March 15th the report of a public meeting called for the purpose of organizing both volunteer companies and a home guard

PUBLIC MEETING

"In compliance with a requisition to that effect, the Mayor of this town called a public meeting of the inhabitants to take into consideration the necessity of raising volunteer companies, to aid in the defence of our country in case an invasion should take place. The meeting was held in the Town Hall on Tuesday evening, and a large number of persons were present.

The Mayor took the Chair and Mr F W Campbell was appointed Secretary to the meeting.

The Mayor alluded to the dangers that beset the country and prompted the calling of the present meeting and after making a brief speech called upon Geo Wilson Esq to move the first resolution Mr Wilson then read the resolution which was as follows —

RESOLVED,—That whereas our country is threatened with an invasion from the United States by fenians and conspirators, and that owing to the impending danger the Government of Canada have considered it advisable to call out 10,000 volunteers, and to resort to other measures for the defence of this portion of Her Majesty s dominions.

And whereas the town of Napanee having for a long time been without any volunteer or organized Militia force, and being the only County Town or place of the same number of inhabitants in Upper Canada not possessing some such organization, we occupy a very unenviable and exceptional position.

And whereas, owing to the above facts this town is in a very defenceless state and is unable to respond as other portions of the country have so nobly done and as the inhabitants of Napanee would cheerfully do to the call of the Government for volunteers.

It is therefore deemed expedient and incumbent upon us the inhabitants of Napanee to show our loyalty to the Queen and our anxiety to take part in the public defence by raising one or more volunteer or militia companies.

Mr Wilson in moving the resolution made a very loyal and patriotic speech. He said he was rejoiced to witness the brave and loyal manner in which the volunteers throughout the country had responded to the call of duty and he regretted exceedingly that the town of Napanee was not in the list of places which had furnished their quota for the public defence. He felt confident that it was from no want of loyalty in the inhabitants of Napanee that they had not a couple of volunteer companies to

send to "the front, but was owing to the fact that until quite recently they had had no persons amongst them properly qualified to officer and drill the men but now that obstacle was removed as several young gentlemen in the town had availed themselves of the facilities afforded by the Military Schools to obtain military instruction and had received either first or second class certificates he trusted therefore that the men of Napanee would relieve their honor and show their loyalty by at once enrolling themselves as volunteers Mr Wilson was loudly applauded at the close of his remarks Mr Thos Flynn seconded the resolution in a lengthy and eloquent speech.

Dr Bristol in a loyal and forcible speech moved the second resolution which was as follows

Whereas, this meeting having deemed it advisable to raise one or more volunteer or militia companies, It is hereby resolved That F W Campbell, Esq., and Geo A Fraser Esq. who hold first class certificates from the Military Schools, be requested to raise two companies of volunteers, and be take all necessary steps towards having them accepted by the Government and furnished with arms and accoutrements

It was seconded by J T Grange, Reeve of the town, who expressed himself willing to "turn out in defence of the country"

Carried unanimously

Mr Campbell thanked the meeting for the compliment they paid him in entrusting him with the discharge of so important a duty which he said he would perform to the best of his ability Mr Fraser also thanked the meeting and said although nothing of a speaker he trusted he would be able to do a little in the fighting line when the proper time came

A couple of lists were then opened, when a rush was made for them and a large number enrolled themselves as volunteers on each list.

The third resolution was then moved by S. S. Mandon, Esq and seconded by Mr A Fraser It was as follows-

Whereas, in view of the more immediate danger that threatens our lives and property from ill-disposed persons that have come or may secretly come amongst us and whereas, the town being without any organized police force, this meeting deems it advisable to form a home guard for the purpose of patrolling the streets at night, and guarding our homes and firesides should it become necessary for them to do so such guard or a sufficient number of them to turn out in discharge of their duty whenever called upon by the chief magistrate of the town so to do

John Stevenson, Esq made a most practical speech on the importance of adopting the steps that had been taken and was followed on the same subject by several other speakers amongst others Mr. Kirby an old veteran officer of 1812.

Vote of thanks to the chairman and three cheers for the Queen, when the meeting peaceably dispersed

When March 17th passed quietly without any hostile demonstration, the general feeling was that the Fenians had been intimidated by the vigorous measures taken by the Canadian Government and the immediate reply of the volunteers In his issue of March 22nd the editor comments of the promptness of the volunteers and on the necessity for an adequate system of defence.

CREDITABLE PROMPTNESS

"It is satisfactory to know that the sons of the heroic militia that so nobly came forward and defended our country in the war of 1812 and the rebellion of 1837 have not lost the same noble, patriotic spirit, and that if our land should again be invaded there are manly arms and brave hearts ready to defend it. It is encouraging to be informed that when the Government recently felt it advisable to make a call for ten thousand volunteers to protect our frontier the whole number was supplied within half a day and in a few hours more the services of ten thousand more were tendered but happily they were not required.

The Fenian leaders will find it far safer to make warlike speeches at home and amuse their audiences by imaginary campaigns than to give the experiment a real test by invading our shores. So long as we are found as ready and willing to repel every invader there is but little danger to be apprehended from Fenian invasions."

OUR MILITIA

"The excitement in this Province in connection with the recent reports of Fenian invasion has caused the people to give more attention to the means of defence than we have done previously. During the whole period of the American civil war the British Government saw the apathy that existed in this country in reference to the state of our Militia, and used strong influences to rouse us to action, but as we did not appear to apprehend any immediate danger there appeared almost impossible to induce us to shake off our apathy. If the present excitement is productive of no other good it will at any rate, stimulate us to more decided action in this respect.

Up to the present time we have depended almost entirely upon the Volunteer system aided by the "regulars" from England for our defence. It must be now obvious that something more will be required than a mere dependance upon a few enterprising young men throughout the country that are willing to sacrifice their time and business in order to receive the proper training that is necessary to fit them to enter the ranks at an army. The country has a right to demand that every inhabitant of the land shall be prepared to go out and drive back any invading foe, but they cannot be thus prepared without proper training and instructions, such as but few are now receiving. We think it is high time that measures should be taken to see that every young man shall be properly enrolled and drilled. We are so closely connected with a powerful and warlike people that in case of any disruption every man's services will be required, and every man should be kept in readiness.

We have now in Canada between 8,000 and 10,000 regulars of the British army and there are about twenty-six thousand volunteers armed and drilled—ten thousand of whom are now on duty. Besides these there are about eighty thousand men of the service Militia balloted for who must turn out whenever the Government think it necessary. But that latter class would scarcely prove of any advantage in case of actual warfare for want of proper training.

It is not at all creditable that in so large and wealthy a country as Lennox and Addington we cannot boast of a single company of volunteers, excepting the efficient troops under the command of Captain Sweetman of Adolphustown. Other counties with far less interests at stake and far less inducements to make the necessary sacrifices have greatly out-stripped us in this important respect.—We trust that this stigma will not be allowed long to remain upon us. Napanee is about to have two companies organized and we see no good reason why several other localities should not be equally as active in this important matter."

For the next few weeks opinions were divided whether the period of calm was only the lull before an impending storm or a sign that the Fenian danger was definitely past. Then came news of a change in the Fenian plan of campaign.

FENIAN RUMORS (April 12)

"People are becoming tired of reading any more the rumors with which the Fenians are in fond of amusing the public, and a feeling of disgust is now provoked at the hollowness of their pretensions. Readers of the Standard will bear witness that from the beginning we have treated the thing as of little or no serious importance, and have given our convictions that of the dangers that have threatened us none was of a less serious character than the threatened invasion. By this time probably the conviction has become pretty general. Those who have amused themselves in trying to keep the public well informed in regard to the projected movements of these men have lately given us to understand that Canada

is likely to be left in quietness and other fields of conquest have been selected It is said that distance lends enchantment to the view and consequently a more distant field has been selected Some have hinted that British Columbia or Vancouver Island would constitute the basis of operations, others that it was the Bermuda Islands.

Last week the New York World and Herald gave forth the intelligence—so often before given—that a blow was at once to be struck. But there was a sad dwindling down in regard to the magnitude of the first achievements. Instead of vanquishing Canada in a single day as before we are now informed that a little island off the coast of New Brunswick—containing about one-half as many acres and population as Amherst Island—is to be the point of attack. The World goes on in the most ludicrous manner to give the details of the projected campaign O Mahoney is not to lead in person, for since the days of the great Napoleon it has always been understood that the lives of great commanders are of too great value to be hazarded in a common engagement, so one of his Generals will perform the daring feat and when the victory is proclaimed O Mahoney is to pass over and be declared President, and set up his long predicted Republic. His dominions are then to spread and New Brunswick is to be absorbed The new empire is to receive the title of Emmetia, in honor of the noted Robert Emmett, whose name is so intimately connected with a former rebellion in Ireland and who paid the penalty with his life. Several of the other particulars, such as dividing the new country into three Provinces, and the General to be clad in a beautiful snuff colored coat, trimmed with green, we cannot afford space to give now We must not forbear to mention that one of the most important objects to be accomplished by the taking of this island, is that as soon as possession is gained a new issue of the Fenian bonds will be thrown into market and it is expected that with the prestige of having conquered British territory and boarding the lion in his own den a couple of millions might be realized in these bonds.

The "little island off the coast of New Brunswick" that was to form the nucleus of the Fenian republic was the island of Campo Bello in Passamaquoddy Bay. The Fenians were reported to be mustering at Eastport, Maine, and in its issue of April 19 under the ironic heading "First battle and its results" the Standard gives the details of a raid on the British customs house on Indian Island. The next issue reports the measures adopted both by the American and British governments to frustrate the Campo Bello scheme.

FENIANISM

"The papers are carefully examined every day to see whether the Fenians that have congregated along the coasts of Maine have yet made an attack on New Brunswick. Even many of those who never before supposed that they intended fight, began to think themselves mistaken for the adage runs, where there is much smoke there must be some fire. The only fire that has yet occurred was the firing of a store house on the American side, supposed to be the work of the Fenians. The report now is that they are dispersing and many of the poor dupes know not how to get to their homes again. It seems probable that the object of this demonstration was more to hasten the sale of bonds, by the owing something like real work than anything else.

The American government has taken more decisive measures for the suppression of the movement. Last week Gen. Meade was sent to their rendezvous with a company of 100 soldiers to keep an eye on their movements. One or two vessels loaded with their arms have also been detained by the government officials, and war ships have been ordered to that vicinity. The New York Times is bitter against them, and asserts that so far the war they have waged has been against the United States and not Britain and demands their suppression. Probably the Americans will see yet more trouble with them.

The British have not been inactive in the meantime. Both soldiers and war ships have been sent to the defense of New Brunswick, and things are in a state of readiness to give them a warm reception

whenever they may find it convenient to honour our fellow colonists with a visit."

The same day on which the above article was published, New York papers, quoted in the next issue of the Standard, were reporting the abandonment of the New Brunswick scheme and the return of the Fenians to New York. On May 10 the editor comments on the trouble this fiasco has caused in the ranks of the Fenians, and urges the necessity for further watchfulness. It is interesting to note too, the effect the Fenian danger had in hastening the confederation of the provinces.

FENIANISM AGAIN

"All the vials of wrath have now poured on the head of poor O'Mahoney. It is said that on returning to New York a deputation from the Eastport terribles waited on him and at once demanded an explanation for the failure of the expedition. It had been promised that transports and iron clads were to meet them at the coast of Maine and convey them to Ireland. O'Mahoney tried to lay the blame on Killian and denounced him as a traitor to the cause. The deputation then demanded remuneration for the time and expenses of the expedition and enforced the payment by locking up O'Mahoney's mansion and presenting revolvers to his head which of course brought him to terms and thirty dollars per head was paid them. The Head Centre was then brought before a Council of the Brotherhood and explanations again demanded. Not being able to give a satisfactory account of his stewardship he was at once deposed from power and a committee placed in guard of the papers and valuables of the establishment. It is said that over $500 have been paid in to O'Mahoney during the past six months but not one dollar was to be found in the safe. Of course the brotherhood will not see the money again.

One would imagine that after so many failures, and so many exposures of dishonesty the deluded dupes would lose faith in the whole movement. Instead of this it is said that hundreds are now rushing to the standard of Roberts and Sweeney and clamouring to be led into trouble. They are "spoiling

for a fight," and nothing else can satisfy them. It will be necessary for these leaders to do something at once or they too will be deposed from power. If anything can or will be done it may therefore soon be expected. It is known that the chosen ground of this party has always been Canada. We will therefore feel it necessary to be well prepared for them for sometime yet to come.

Up till this date the Fenians cannot be much flattered with the result of their efforts. In consequence of the excitement in Ireland the Habeas Corpus Act was suspended and according to the Dublin correspondent of the New York News — a Fenian authority the result has been that more Irish have left the country than can be replaced by the most magnificent "army of invasion" that has yet been promised, so that the case is worse than ever. In America the demonstrations against the British Provinces has done more to hasten Confederation than anything else and this but tends to strengthen and consolidate British power. All the trouble there has yet been has been in their own ranks, and with the United States Government. There is an old adage 'give the Devil rope enough and he will hang himself'.

The discussion in Fenian circles attendant on the failure of the Campo Bello campaign brought the organizer James Stephens, to New York from Ireland. As soon as Stephens assumed control there was an ominous lull. Greater secrecy was imposed on the gullible brethren, but it was generally believed that Stephens' own plan was to set up their republic in Ireland rather than to attack Canada first, and for the next few weeks he allowed the report to be circulated that his only mission in America was to collect funds to be sent to Ireland, and that the invasion of Canada was abandoned.

Suddenly on the first of June the blow was struck. The Standard in its issue of June 7th does not give a connected account of the engagements but prints the series of despatches as they were received from various points from June 1st to June 5th. From this information one can give only the first impression of the raids which a contemporary reader would have gained rather than an authentic account. It is amusing to note, by the way,

the staid manner in which the engagements are reported, when one considers the hysteria to which an invasion of the country would move a newspaper of 1939. There are no headlines across the sheet. Indeed no mention of Fenians is allowed to mar the deep peace which broods over the front page. Of its eight columns the first three are as usual devoted to small advertisements and business directory; next come a few stanzas of "select poetry" and a story of the highly sentimental type in vogue at the period, with a few moral maxims of Epictetus for padding. It is only on turning over the leaf that we learn that the enemy has been active in our midst.

It appears that on May 31st about 1300 Fenians crossed at Niagara and advanced to Frenchman's Creek. The Canadian volunteers moved from Fort Colborne to Ridgeway by train and finding the Fenians encamped in the woods, engaged them, the Queen's Own firing the first shot. Several were killed on both sides and the Fenians were driven back but later the Queen's Own retired for want of support. Whether Colonel Booker, who was in command of the supporting troops, deliberately fled or fell back mistaking the cheers of the Queen's Own for shouts of victorious Fenians, he was so severely criticized that he soon resigned his command. Colonel Peacock with a body of regulars moved by water from Chippawa against the Fenians at Fort Erie. Many Fenians retreated across the river but on the approach of Col. Peacock's force 700 were taken prisoners, and handed over to the custody of the American armed steamer Michigan under Commander Bryson. When the volunteers and regulars took up their position along the river opposite Buffalo the danger of a Fenian raid from that point was over. The troops mentioned as taking part in the engagement, were the Queen's Own the 13th Hamilton battalion the 19th and 47th regiments the Welland and Gray batteries.

Meanwhile it was reported from Ogdensburg that Fenians were concentrating at Malone, N.Y. to attack the canal at Cornwall. The 15th Battalion from Belleville and the 16th from Picton received orders on the 2nd of June to proceed at once to Prescott. Two days later the volunteers which this county could muster were summoned.

MOVEMENTS OF TROOPS

On Sunday afternoon an order was sent up from Kingston for Captain Sweetman's company of Cavalry to report themselves at that place immediately and although they were scattered over a large tract of country yet in about three hours they had nearly all assembled at Bath, from whence they moved on in a body to Kingston. The following named gentlemen of this town have gone with the company —B. C. Davy Mayor M. P. Nobles Registrar C. E. Perry Edwin Green, and Dr. Brisal.

Apparently the volunteer companies begun at the public meeting of March 15 had never materialized, as the editor feels it necessary to explain the dearth of volunteers from Napanee.

EXPLANATORY

As many complaints are made in regard to Napanee that while every other town and village is sending Volunteers into the field to defend our country not a single company is here even to defend our own homes, we may say by way of apology that the blame is partly due to the government. When the Volunteers throughout the country were called out some months ago two Companies of volunteers enrolled their names here and tendered their services to the Government, but an answer was received informing them that their services were not then required, but intimating that arms would be forwarded them in time so that they might drill for future purposes.—Since then there has nothing been heard from the Government in regard to the matter. This week telegrams have been sent again offering their services but an answer has been sent thanking them and saying that their services will not be required. We hope however that our Representative will use his influence to have arms and clothing sent to them at once so that we may be no longer without Volunteer companies.

But steps had already been taken to remove the reproach. On Saturday June 3 a public meeting was held to form a home guard, and reorganize the volunteer companies.

PUBLIC MEETING

After it became known that our country had been invaded and that our own homes were exposed, it was thought advisable to hold a public meeting of the citizens of Napanee to devise some means for our own protection. Accordingly quite late on Saturday afternoon a proclamation was issued calling a meeting that evening in the Town Hall for the purpose and notwithstanding the short notice the Hall was completely crowded. Never have we seen more assembled in the Hall.

In the absence of the Mayor the chair was occupied by J. T. Grange, Esq. Reeve, who briefly explained the object of the meeting. John Stevenson Esq. was called upon and moved a resolution expressive of our feelings in reference to the wanton invasion of our land by an enemy to whom we had never given the least provocation, and the necessity of prompt measures on our part to provide for our own defence. Judge Burrows briefly seconded the resolution.

Bishop Richardson, of the M. E. Church was then called upon and was received with great cheers. This venerable gentleman lost one arm in the defence of our Country in the war of 1812 and gave some interesting particulars in regard to that struggle. We regret that space will not allow us to furnish a lengthy report of his interesting speech.

T. W. Casey Esq. moved the second resolution, in regard to the enrolment of a Home Guard. He said while it was necessary for us to provide men to send to the battle-field and oppose foes without, it was also our duty to see to it that no mischief should be done by traitors within. Unless our streets were nightly patrolled it would be an easy matter for even four or five evil disposed men to do us incalculable injury by applying the torch of the incendiary to our own homes. It would therefore be necessary for us at once to arrange to have our streets nightly patrolled, lest advantage should be taken of the present excitement. Dr Ruttan seconded the resolution in a few well-timed remarks.

A large number at once enrolled themselves as

a Home Guard, and several more as volunteers if their services would be accepted.

There continued to be rumors of threatened attacks at Prescott, Kingston and St. Johns in Quebec, but none materialized. The rather large force at Malone was made to disband through the vigorous action of the American Major-General Meade. This the editor points out in his issue of June 14, but at the same time can not refrain from a thrust at the American government for having allowed the Fenian organization to be developed so far.

FENIANISM COLLAPSED

"Perhaps few of our readers will be much surprised at the feeble end of the Great Fenian campaign—that was to have taken possession of Canada and then liberated Ireland from Britain's iron grasp. We could never make ourselves believe that these agitators ever seriously entertained the idea that either Canada or Ireland would ever fall into the their hands, and there are many others who are firmly of the opinion that a desire for plunder was the true secret of their operations.

The little sympathy they received from any portion of our inhabitants and the prompt manner in which they were repulsed had much to do with the failure of the movement, though it must be admitted that the decided action of the American Government in seizing their arms and arresting their leaders had much to do with the speedy termination of the expedition.

We trust that the trouble and vast expense of which the United States Government has found it necessary to make to quell this movement which it so quietly allowed to grow up unmolested in its own territory will teach it a salutary lesson. Had it been nipped in the very bud as it might easily have been, all this trouble would have been prevented in both countries. As it is the United States were put to a greater expense and trouble than when we have been and with them the difficulty is not yet at an end. No government should for a single day tolerate a movement as wicked in its conception and as diabolical in its design as the wanton invasion of a peaceful and

friendly people, and it cannot be expected that the connivance of such an outrage will be allowed to pass unpunished."

In spite of his brave words of explanation in the previous issue, the editor felt keenly the poor showing made by the county when the call came for volunteers.

OURSELVES AND OUR NEIGHBORS

"From our neighboring Counties of Hastings and Prince Edward over eight hundred volunteers left their homes to defend our frontier within forty-eight hours of the time their services were demanded, from this County fifty all told At Belleville, we are informed every school has been closed in consequence of the teachers being away on duty and many places of business are nearly closed because so many connected with them are absent. Both Editors are gone in the Chronicle office none but the "devil" is left. Of the remaining citizens a large number have been enrolled and thoroughly armed as a Home Guard and are constantly on the alert.

From Prince Edward not only has the County Town furnished a large number of volunteers, but there are many from nearly every township in the county We are glad to see that the authorities are taking good care to provide for the families of those who are thus absent on duty At Picton a committee was at once appointed to attend to the wants of families whose support had been called away, and a special meeting of the County Council has been held and funds voted from the general treasury for the same laudable purpose. Mounted Pigquets have been established along nearly the whole lake side coast of the County where any danger might be apprehended from a landing of the invaders. It has also been proposed to form a Home Guard in each Township in the County and meetings for that purpose have been held in some localities

When we compare the activity of our neighbors to provide for the defence of our country in the present emergency with our own inactivity, who does not blush at the unenviable position we now occupy Beyond the excellent company of troops,

headed by Captain Sweetman of Adolphustown, Lennox and Addington has not furnished any companies whatever. Had our own officials displayed the same spirit and sacrifice as those of Prince Edward we doubt not but that our position now would have been equally proud, for no one will say that the young men of this County are deficient in activity and courage, where the country demands their services. We are glad to say however that prompt steps are now being taken to place ourselves on a better footing. At Bath a company with W. P. Peterson, Esq., as Captain, has been raised and are to be armed at once. At Tamworth there are now two companies, and at Napanee Captains Campbell and Geo. Fraser respectively are drilling their recently organized companies, and are expecting arms to be furnished them in a few days.

We trust that the good work will not stop here. There is no good reason why there should not be an excellent company in every township in this County. To ensure our safety we must be in a position to inform our enemies that we are at any moment prepared to receive them. We sincerely hope and trust that another week will not elapse without efforts being made to organize companies in several of the large and respectable townships of which we have not yet been able to hear in connection with the volunteer movement. Let the men of South Fredericksburgh, of Richmond, of Ernestown, and of Camden, give us to understand that they are not behind their neighbors in this important enterprise."

It happened that four men from the county students at the University of Toronto, had taken part in the engagement at Ridgeway as members of the Queen's Own. The following extract from the report of the County Council meeting of June 28th shows that the county was not unappreciative of their services.

"Moved by Mr. Ham, seconded by Mr. Paul, That, as several of the young men of this county, while attending the University at Toronto, and belonging to the Queen's Own volunteers, were called upon to do duty on the Niagara Frontier during the late invasion by Fenians, having nobly responded to

the call and served during the engagement at Ridgeway, this Council do an a slight token of the appreciation which the people of this County have of their devotion to their country present each of such volunteers viz Messrs. Smythe, Carey Decoche and Nichols, with the sum of Twenty dollars, and the same be paid over to order of the respective Reeves of the Municipalities in which the said volunteers reside, to be presented to them on behalf of this corporation. Carried."

Meanwhile there were intermittent rumors of other attempts by the Fenians and the newly organized volunteers of Napanee were hard at work determined to wipe out the former reproach of unpreparedness

VOLUNTEER INSPECTION (July 26)

"On Thursday evening of last week Brigade-Major Shaw visited this town for the purpose of inspecting the Artillery Company here Although the officers of the company were not aware of the intended inspection till the usual hour for drill, yet a full company was mustered. The men were put through the various military evolutions in which they had been instructed and moved with a regularity that was very creditable, considering the short period they have been under drill. The Brigade-Major after passing through the ranks, addressed the company at considerable length. He expressed himself highly pleased with their appearance, and said he would have much pleasure in reporting favorably of them to the Adjutant-General He referred to the unenviable notoriety which Napanee had gained during the late Fenian excitement, both at the Adjutant-Generals office and thro'-out the district, and hoped that our reputation would be retrieved by displaying more of a patriotic and military spirit in the future."

Although many of the seven hundred Fenians captured at Fort Erie had escaped there still remained in Canada about two hundred prisoners a sufficient number to prove a source of embarrassment to the government as to their trial.

FENIAN TRIALS (June 21)

"It does not appear that our Government have yet been able to arrive at a decision in regard to the Fenian prisoners now in our hands. According to the provisions of our Statutes they may either be tried by Military Commission or in our Civil Courts, but it has not yet been announced which will be resorted to. It is probable the latter however.—It will doubtless be an exceedingly difficult matter to do much with them in our civil courts. A foreign citizen, found with arms in his hands, invading the country in time of peace and trying to plunder is liable to the death penalty. But scarcely any of these were found with arms in their hands, and nearly all of them assert that they were merely spectators who had no part in the invasion. Several have proved that they were such, and it will be a difficult matter to show by direct evidence such as a Court would require before inflicting capital punishment, that any of them were personally engaged in the battle. It will be remembered that no prisoners were taken at Fort Erie on the battle field, or even under arms, and under such circumstances it would be difficult to prove their guilt, unless they gave evidence against each other.

The Attorney General has announced that they shall be treated as brigands and marauders but even if their guilt could be clearly established, it would be too much like butchery to put to death nearly two hundred prisoners many of whom are mere boys and dupes of designing ones. The principal officers, if we but had them could well be made an example of, but they took good care to secure their escape.

It does not appear that the Canadian Government has made any demand for the prisoners taken by the American authorities near Fort Erie. As there must be good evidence furnished here of the guilt of each individual before he can be claimed under the Extradition treaty it is at once evident that it would be no easy task to claim them, and even if in our hands it would be a question what way to dispose of them. We regret that some efforts are not made to procure O'Neil. As the leader of the

party it would not be so difficult to prove his guilt and his punishment would not be such a questionable matter

The American government has undertaken the trial of "President" Roberts, and after two days investigation it has been abandoned. Certainly in this case their Courts present a pitiable spectacle. It was announced by the prosecuting Attorney that in consequence of the intimidations and threats of violence to those that might be witnesses against him they could not safely be brought into court. Witnesses whose evidence went to substantiate any of the charges preferred would be openly hissed by the spectators, and loud cheers given when anything was brought out favourable to the prisoner In Canada, where the order and dignity of our courts have always been maintained, these facts appear strange enough. Certainly the admirers of democratic institutions among us must see, from time to time enough defects in the American system to convince them of the superiority of our own."

Since it had been decided to give the prisoners a civil rather than a military trial, they were kept in custody during the summer and brought up before the judge at the fall assizes in October

FENIAN PRISONERS (Oct. 25)

"The Court at Toronto is engaged in the trial of the Fenian prisoners now in custody at that city The evidence for the prosecution has been laid before the Grand Jury and a true bill has been found against several, others have not yet been brought into court, but all will be as fast as the business can be proceeded with. It is understood that the trial will be continued until all are disposed of Over two hundred witnesses are now in Toronto summoned to attend these trials. The great difficulty is to identify the men as being of the number in the Fenian ranks, as none of them were found under arms at the time of their apprehension.

The American Consul attends the court daily to observe the progress of the trial on behalf of the prisoners, and those that claim to be American cit-

funds will be supplied with money to enable them to defray the expenses of their defence."

Many of the prisoners were acquitted through lack of evidence, but at Toronto two were convicted and condemned to death, a Col. James Lynch (in Dec 13th issue called Robert E. Lynch) who had claimed that he was the reporter for a Louisville paper and not a combatant, and Rev. John McMahon. The intervention of the American Secretary of State which moved the editor of the Standard to such indignation, was so far effective that it secured a three months respite for the condemned Lynch, McMahon and five others, Wm. Slavin Wm. Hayden Daniel Whalen, J Quinn and Thomas School, whose execution had been set for the same date.

SENTENCE OF THE FENIAN PRISONERS (Nov. 1)

"Justice" says the old adage "has a leaden foot but an iron hand" slow to move but terrible to strike. So it has proved in the case of our Fenian Prisoners, against whom sentence has been pronounced

The many months that have been allowed to transpire between the apprehension and trial of these men caused a universal murmur at the tardiness of our government but now that some have been held there is regret that there is so much severity in the prescribed punishment. It is not however probable that, if the others are found guilty their punishment will be as great as in the case of Col Lynch, and the Rev McMahon. The majority of the others are young—mere boys,, and of but little intelligence, it would therefore be an injustice to deal as severely with them

Great efforts are being made to procure the pardon of them condemned man particularly on the part of the United States Public meetings of the Fenians are being held and speeches of the most inflamatory character indulged in of what Canadians may expect in case these sentences are carried into effect. Resolutions are also adopted calling upon the President to use his influence to procure their release. So far as the effect of these speeches may go they will be of but questionable advantage to those for whom the pretended sympathy was extended. It

is well known that Britons, whoever you may find them are not easily intimidated into submission, even by those who may have the power to carry their threats into execution; but Fenian threats have become so familiar during the past year or two, to us, that they pass for merely empty words.

The fact that the Washington Government has acted so promptly in endeavouring to procure their release will do but little in their favour. Had the same government been as prompt in its efforts to suppress the movement in the very outset these men would never have troubled us at all. No reason can be advanced why leniency should be extended to these men; there is no palliation for their crime. Had it been the scheme of some thoughtless young men, attempted at the impulse of the moment, and heartily regretted immediately after, it would be then quite pardonable. But it was premeditated, to the full knowledge of the Washington Government, for months previous to its execution, and even since we have been unmistakably informed that nothing but their much regretted want of ability prevents those same hordes from overrunning and subjugating us, depriving us of our much valued liberty. And yet this is the very class of men that Secretary Seward and President Johnson would fain have us treat with unusual forbearance! Their own conduct towards the invaders is anything but creditable. The man who assaults a loafer is straightly fined for the offence but the men who invaded Canada, shot down six of our brave men, plundered and pillaged as much as they could, are let go without even the form of a trial, as an offence too trivial to be noticed. Save us from our friends, if these are to be considered as such!

While the subject of the Fenian raids loomed so large that it seemed best to treat it as a separate topic, there were other questions of interest discussed through the same number of the Standard. In the issue of Jan. 26th the editor comments very wisely on the reciprocity treaty which had been in force since 1854 but was abrogated by the United States this same year 1866.

RECIPROCITY TREATY

"Messrs Galt and Howland are now at Washington using their best endeavours to secure a continuance of the present Reciprocity Treaty or to negotiate for another So far as we can learn their mission does not promise to be very successful The American Government appear determined either to annul the Treaty altogether or exact from us conditions neither just nor politic

We regret sometimes that our Government has displayed so much anxiety in regard to this Treaty These numerous missions to Washington, and the many other attempts that have been made to secure its continuance all go to confirm our neighbours in the belief that we look upon the Treaty as all-important to our commercial existence, and would be willing to make almost any sacrifice sooner than forego its advantages. Every effort made embolden them to demand greater concessions on our part and to act imperatively in the matter

The Treaty has been of advantage to the United States as well as Canada, and it is high time they were unmistakably informed we can prosper without its provisions. Many further concessions on our part would be purchasing its advantages at entirely too dear a rate, and if they will not be satisfied with what is just and fair we might as well give up the beggarly attempt first or last."

It might be interesting to note how the editor's view is borne out by a modern historian "It was a mutual benefit but through some mistaken view or narrow trade policy the United States refused to continue the treaty after the year 1866 Its cessation created a considerable derangement of trade between the two countries, but the compulsory development of many branches of home industry by Canada has given a self dependence and energy to Canadians (A Short History of the Canadian People, by George Bryce)

The question of confederation was no longer a vital issue in Canada West, as our province was then called, but the interest was centred in the Maritime provinces, where the advocates of confederation were labouring to have the scheme adopted by their respective govern-

means. It will be noted that it was believed that Newfoundland would form one of the provinces of the new Canada.

"There appears to be good evidence that the Eastern Provinces are inclined to reconsider their rejection of the Confederation scheme. New Brunswick, we are informed is about to intimate its acceptance, and a coalition Ministry is presumed having this as the specific object of its formation. In Newfoundland both branches of the legislature have accepted the plan decided upon at Quebec. Let Nova Scotia follow the example and our projected "new nationality" will soon be realised." (Mar 8)

The abrogation of the reciprocity treaty revived the disputes over the fisheries along the Atlantic seaboard, which were to be settled five years later by the treaty of Washington

THE FISHERIES

"From a private letter recently received from Ottawa, we are informed that at the seat of Government more trouble is apprehended from the position of the Fishery question than from all the blather and threats of the Fenians. One of the most prolific sources of dispute between the British Government and that of the United States for many years, has been in regard to the rights of fishing in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, the Bay of Fundy and other points on the coast of the Maritime Provinces. It is known that some of the most valuable fisheries in the world for mackerel and cod are along the shores above mentioned, and the profits connected with them have been earnestly coveted by our American neighbours.

By the law of nations each country is allowed to have exclusive jurisdiction over those waters lying within three miles from its own land. And in reference to this point there has been but little grounds of dispute when the American fishermen were excluded from these limits but the great source of difficulty has been in regard to the claim and bays where the headlands have not been over three miles apart. These the British Government has claimed as part of its territory and this claim has been re-

sisted by our neighbors, who have contended on the other hand that so long as they were no fishing within three miles of the coast they had a right to do as even though they were compelled to pass thro British waters to reach these grounds.

This question has been dealt with by several treaties between the two governments, but no satisfactory understanding has been arrived at in reference to the inlets and bays, and on several occasions collisions were imminent in consequence.

According to the provisions of the Reciprocity Treaty American citizens were granted the privilege of fishing in these Provincial waters, and consequently the troubles in regard to the fishery question have ceased to exist during the past eleven years. The abrogation of the Treaty has again opened up the question and now that these privileges have been so long enjoyed, the contention will probably become keener than before. With such a valuable source of wealth before their eyes the Americans are very reluctant to let the opportunity slip, and we doubt not that every means will be used to evade the restrictions placed upon them. Our Government appear determined however to see that our rights are not encroached upon and some weeks ago a proclamation was issued warning all foreigners not to infringe on our territories for fishing purposes, and it is intended during the season to keep vessels along the coast with power and instructions to keep off invaders.

Not to be outdone in this manner the United States have ordered some war vessels and a monitor to the same waters to see to it that their citizens shall be fully protected. What the result of these demonstrations and counter demonstrations may be it is difficult to tell but it is easily seen that with so many questions of dispute as will doubtless arise and with armed vessels on either side ready to resent any grievance, real or imaginary, and with a hostile feeling already in existence between the two parties it will be an easy matter to drift into difficulties that may lead to serious results. There are not a few among the Americans that would gladly see hostilities between the two countries, and it will re-

quire prudence and skill on the part of the better classes of the community to avert such a calamity

At this time the United States were passing through a very trying period of reconstruction. Some of the perplexing questions were the restitution of the political privileges of the Southern States, the treatment of the freed slaves the trial of the rebel leaders. The editor gives a summary of some of the difficulties in an editorial of April 19th.

AFFAIRS AT WASHINGTON

"The position of affairs in the United States is becoming still more critical,—Peace has been declared but harmony does not yet prevail At present hostilities are confined to a war of words. The difficulties between President Johnson and the House of Representatives and the Senate are of such a character that it is not easily seen upon what terms a compromise can be effected between them. President Johnson's policy appears to be to allow the South to enter at once into all their former privileges and liberties giving full permission for the regulation of all state laws and institutions. The Legislature on the other hand appear determined to treat the rebels as a vanquished people and to lay down pretty strict regulations for their future guidance, refusing to allow them their former privileges until these are asserted to and complied with.

As might be expected the negro is the great source of all the difficulty.—The Legislature claims that his position shall be clearly defined by the Federal Government, while the President insists upon it that each state must be allowed to deal with him as it may deem best. To define his position two acts were passed by the Legislature, known respectively as the Freedman's Bureau, and the Civil Rights bills. Both these were rejected by the President, but the latter has become the law of the land in spite of his veto by virtue of its having received the assent of two thirds of the Legislature.

The President has just issued a Proclamation declaring the war at an end, and that consequently the States lately in rebellion are now entitled to all their former privileges again. This the Legislature

dantism by refusing to allow the representatives from these states seats in their body How this difficulty is to be determined time will soon show

These differences of feeling and policy have brought about much personal animosity President Johnson on his part has, in a public speech, declared his opponents to be traitors as great as those just vanquished on the battle field, and leaves the impression that he would gladly have them treated as such His friends are hinting in plain terms that it is high time that, Cromwell like, he should send them away about their business, and take the full reins of power in his own hands. The leading Republicans declare on the other hand that the President should be impeached and deposed from power Of course there is a middle class between these two extremes that would gladly reconcile these difficulties if they could but it is doubtful whether their wise counsels will prevail

There are strong arguments to be used by each party in support of the views respectively held The Democrats urge that these States cannot longer be kept out of the Union without violence to the constitution. From the beginning the Federal government denied that any State could leave the Union and this point having been conceded it is contrary to the constitution to withhold from them any of the privileges which the Union confers and that if they are now kept out by the action of the Federal Government, they may remain out by their own act. The Republicans reply that war was declared and waged in consequence of slavery and until it is thoroughly eradicated and that with the consent of the conquered peace cannot be fully proclaimed again

The Proclamation just issued will have the tendency to establish the United States courts again in each of the States, and we may therefore expect that Jefferson Davis, Clay and others who have long been kept in prison charged with high treason will receive their trials, or be set at liberty Certainly it is high time that something should be done with them It is not just to them or to the people that they should be longer kept. If they are guilty

punishment should be as prompt as possible, if innocent they are entitled to liberty."

One of the most important achievements of the year was the laying of the Atlantic cable. The editor very rightly applauds as one of the wonders of the age a convenience to which we have grown so accustomed that we take it quite for granted. Before this the European news in the *Standard* was always headed "Arrival of the City of Paris" or whatever might be the name of the ship that brought the despatches. Now there is a proud heading in very heavy type "By Atlantic Cable."

ATLANTIC TELEGRAPH (Aug. 17)

"The Atlantic telegraph cable is now in beautiful working order and messages are being daily transmitted. The cable between Newfoundland and the main coast, which has been for some time out of order, has been repaired, so that despatches between England and America are subject to no delay.

As an evidence of the rapidity with which news is now transmitted we may state that on Tuesday news that was published in the Paris *Moniteur* in the morning was sent to London and thence by Atlantic cable, and republished in our Canada papers the same afternoon!—Truly this is an age of wonders.

The Great Eastern is now coaling and preparing for her voyage to pick up the lost end of the last years' cable so as to complete its laying and will go to sea in a day or two.

An attempt had been made the year before to lay the cable but it had to be abandoned when the cable broke in mid ocean. The finding and splicing the ends of the cable was successfully accomplished in 1866, after the second cable was in operation.

THE LOST CABLE (Sept. 6)

"To us it appears that the fact of the broken and lost cable of last year being again recovered and likely to be successfully complete, is a far greater marvel of science than anything else that has occurred during the nineteenth century. Had it been successfully laid without misfortune a year ago

> it would have been one of the wonders of the age, but greater still is the achievement of completing it under the extremely unfavourable circumstances that had to be contended with.
>
> That a small wire of but few inches in diameter lost in midocean thousands of miles from shore, or any land mark, without anything to indicate the spot where it lay and with no means of ascertaining but from observations taken from the stars of heaven, should be gone to, months after it was lost, and successfully picked up from near two miles under the surface speaks volumes for the progress of human science. We wonder, taking it all together whether the world has yet witnessed such a triumph of human skill as the successful working of the Atlantic Telegraph Cable of 1865."

Those Maritime provinces that had been induced to reconsider their first rejection of the confederation plan had already sent delegates to England. In the Standard of October 11 we learn that representatives from Canada too were on their way to lay the proposal before the British Parliament.

DELEGATION TO ENGLAND

> "At last we are informed that our Government has arranged to send delegates to England to confer with the Imperial Government, and with the delegates from the Eastern Province in regard to the details of the Confederation scheme. As the other delegates have been there for a couple of months we have many times wondered why ours were not sent before this time but there may be sufficient reasons that we know not of.—Messrs. McDonald and McDougall are to represent Upper Canada and Cartier and Langevin the Eastern Province. It is understood that so soon as they arrive in England they will at once apply themselves to the task of arriving at a satisfactory arrangement in regard to the Confederation matter and in case success crowns their efforts, a measure will be introduced into British Parliament, in January to confirm and consummate the whole scheme. In that case our own Parliament will not be convened again and we may expect to be called upon before many months to el-

act representatives for both the Confederate and the Local Legislatures. As Lennox and Addington are now divided into two constituencies and as each county will have two seats to fill some new men will be required for the purpose, and it would be wisdom on the part of our people to be looking about them for some good men and true to fill these important situations.

When we turn to the consideration of domestic affairs, we find that the editor shows just as shrewd judgment. The picture he draws of the thoroughfares of Napanee in his time is more interesting than attractive, and it is strange to note the keen dread of the cholera, a disease almost unknown in Canada now thanks to the progress made along the very lines advocated by the editor

THE CHOLERA (Mar 8)

"We observe by our exchanges that in almost every city and town in the Province the inhabitants are making arrangements to do what they can to make preparations to mitigate as far as possible the ravages of the cholera, should it visit our shores during the coming summer. It has visited during the last year in almost every European country and already some cases have been reported on this continent, and it is not therefore probable we shall be able to escape its visit during the present season. Having such a timely forewarning we have plenty of opportunity to take every precaution against it and thereby save ourselves from much of its fatality. We do not intend just now to throw out any suggestions in regard to what means should be resorted to, but merely wish to call the attention of our authorities to the subject. The spring is now upon us and warm weather will soon set in and it is high time that the "Town Fathers" of Napanee should begin in earnest to see that every effort will be made to spare the lives and health of our citizens. Every kind of filth should be removed from our lanes and by-places, and yards and cellars should be thoroughly cleansed. It is high time too that a word should be said about the pig-styes, slaughter-houses and such like places, from which fevers and other dis-

cases are generally spread. While our pen is running we would beg leave to suggest that some little efforts should be made this year in regard to the annoyances that almost every inhabitant has heretofore felt from the unrestricted liberty granted to the hordes of hogs, geese, cows and dogs that have been permitted to roam about our streets, and commit every kind of annoying depredations that their inclinations may suggest. A people so highly taxed as ourselves for municipal purposes ought to derive some further benefits from our municipal government."

OUR STREETS (Aug 2.)

"Many and we think well founded complaints are made against our town Council for the filthy manner in which our streets are allowed to remain. In no town of the same extent can in any part of the province have we seen the principal streets in such a disorderly condition as those of Napanee. At this the most sickly season of the year when every precaution should be taken not to allow any filth to accumulate the sides of our streets in many places are puddles of water and mud, and this just in front of the doors of some of the principal places of business, only to dry up by the natural course of evaporation.

We wonder, too that our principal street should be used as a general depository for the offal and sweepings of every shop whose occupant has not tidiness enough about him to otherwise dispose of his rubbish. No where else hardly will one see the fronts of the shops of the principal street made a depository for packing boxes, salt barrels, sheep producing hides, bushes, and whatever else it may be convenient to throw in it. We wonder that shop owners themselves have not more taste, but lacking this, it is the duty of our Council to instruct its officers to see to it that some respect shall be paid to the ordinary rules of decency and cleanliness.

We have felt reluctant to speak in regard to this matter hoping that some time our officials would take it in hand but being urged so frequently to it, we call their attention to a fact which appears to

have entirely escaped their notice and sincerely hope that all further cause of complaint will be speedily removed.

The reprehensible practice of allowing all kinds of wares, especially edge tools, to be hung over the side walks or in exposed places should also be prevented.—The sword of Damocles was but little more dangerous than some of these man traps that we might mention. The writer speaks of these from his own experience. One day last week two scythes suspended on a nail just over the side walk fell on his devoted head, and the good fortune of one falling back downwards, across his neck saved him a severe gash, and the owner a heavy bill of costs."

When the County Council refused to help in the erection of a drill shed for the new volunteer companies, the editor vigorously denounced the short-sightedness of their action. Could he have foreseen it, his counsel was not to prevail until 1914.

A DRILL-SHED (Sept. 20)

It will be seen by our published report of the proceedings of the County Council that the application made for a grant to assist in erecting a Drill-shed here has been rejected—only five members voting in its favour. We regret that such a decision has been made, and we think that a majority of the tax-payers of the county will join us in this regret.

If the events of the last year have taught us any thing they have demonstrated the imperative necessity there exists in making every endeavour to develope our own sources of defence, by giving every encouragement to our Volunteer Companies to become thoroughly drilled and disciplined so that when their services may be required they will be ready for the emergency. Throughout the whole country Lennox and Addington obtained an unenviable notoriety in June last, for its apparent apathy in regard to the protection of our homes and our country, and we fear that, unless our county officials manifest more liberality than they have yet shown we will be but little better prepared when the necessity again arises, for it must be evident to

every one that without a good Drill-shed the volunteers drill here must soon be virtually at an end for months to come.

There are now a number of companies in this vicinity and to their credit it can be said that they have made no small sacrifice to endeavour to prepare themselves for efficiency by a thorough drill. Young men are now in the habit of coming regularly several miles here to drill after having laboured hard during the day and it is well known that during the long winter evenings there will be much more time and leisure for this desirable purpose but drilling will be impossible without suitable shelter from the severity and inclemency of the weather. It is well known that there is not now any building in the county suitable for a battalion drill and unless such is provided the sacrifice labour and expense already incurred will be almost entirely lost, and those who have come nobly forward and volunteered will be discouraged at the apathy manifested.

Recognizing the necessity there is in every locality for Drill-sheds, the government has made provision to assist in their erection by doubling the amount of money raised by the local authorities for that purpose. Our Town Council voted the sum of $60 to assist in such an erection here and Mr Cartwright, with his accustomed liberality offered an eligible lot of land gratuitously for the site, and it was thought that, as the object was not a mere local one, the County Council would have no hesitation in granting a small sum necessary to secure for us a permanent building. That body must either have decided that the object was not worthy of their assistance or that this municipality ought to incur the whole expense. In either case we must dissent from their conclusion. It is useless to argue that a Drill shed is not a necessity if our Volunteers are worth the keeping at all for that is well known; neither is it just to place the whole burden upon Napanee for the object is not one of more local importance. The building is designed for the whole County as it would be unreasonable to expect one in every locality where a company has been formed.

its great necessity is to drill the companies together as a Battalion and this would include not those of this municipality alone.

If the County Council has thought the tax-payers would not cheerfully bear the small additional amount of taxation that such a grant would involve, we question whether it has an adequate idea of the people's liberality. Who is there that would object to an outlay of a few shillings— for this is all that it would amount to on each individual—for the patriotic purpose of assisting to defend our noble Province against the invasion of its enemies? We trust that this matter will yet be reconsidered, and that a more liberal spirit will be shown next time.

It would be difficult to find a more fitting conclusion than the editor's remarks on Thanksgiving, printed on Dec 20th 1866.

THANKSGIVING.

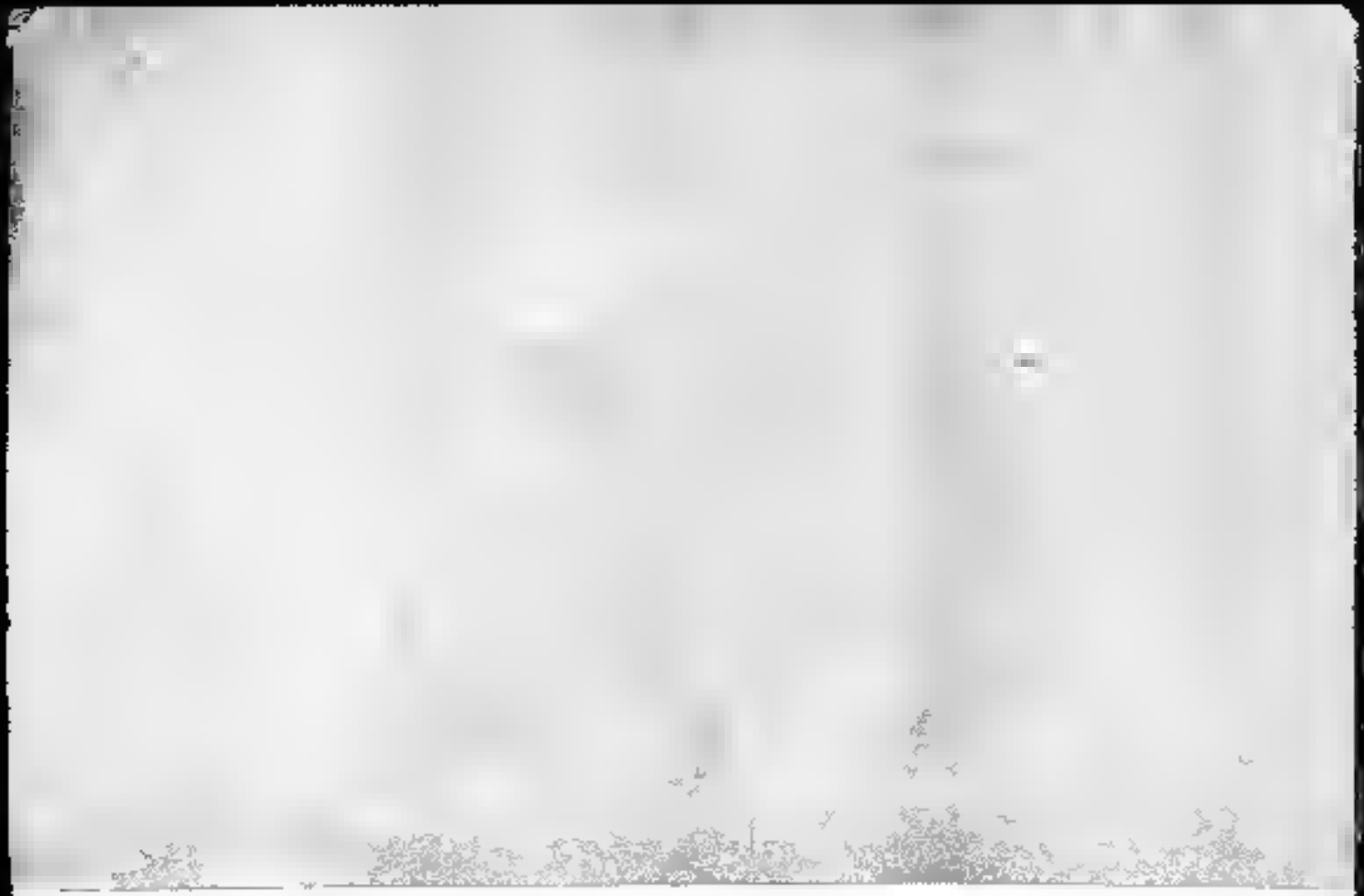
We had entertained the hope that in consideration of the great mercies and blessings with which our country has been favored during the present year the Governor would have issued his proclamation appointing a day of national thanksgiving to the Father of mercies, but the year has so far gone that there is no probability such will be done. We exceedingly regret this, for in no year has the hand of providence been more visible in our protection than in that just drawing to a close. Menaced as we were at the beginning of this year with a formidable invasion, for which thousands have been expended and great preparations were made, and in which so many were eager to join, even the most brave saw there was great danger, and but little probability that the effort would result in so little disaster to ourselves. Had not the hand of providence interposed in our behalf, and brought to conclusion the bloody designs of these wicked men, who does not feel that though they might have been vanquished and driven back again, yet it would have been a serious calamity to ourselves. Trace the history of those designs from their beginning to their failure and conviction is irresistible that our cause was defended by more than human wisdom. The immin-

ity with which we have escaped the dire ravages of the cholera, that threatened us at the beginning of this year was a great cause of thankfulness. In various parts of Europe, in England and near by as in the United States, thousands of families have been bereaved by its ravages, but here, with the exception of a very few cases, the cup of sorrow has been directed to pass by. The year has been one of unusual good health—a subject for profound gratitude.

The commercial prosperity of the year has not been among the smallest of our blessings. Twelve months ago our commercial prospects were not so cheerful as at the beginning of many former years. The Reciprocity Treaty that appeared as a necessary to our prosperity was about to be abrogated; the close of the war in the United States threatened to bring with it many of those commercial evils that always follow a period of inflation; and the great financial crash in England that swept down many a house of long and honorable standing all threatened us with more than usual misfortunes.

But notwithstanding all these things Canada has enjoyed a year of its greatest prosperity. An abundant harvest was given us, new openings for our trade were presented, prices have been remunerative, and at no time has our business relations at home and abroad presented a more cheering aspect.

Peace, health, and prosperity—all God's choicest blessings to any nation—demand our national thanksgiving in a national way, and we deem it the duty of our government to set apart a day for this special purpose. Several of our churches have set apart and duly observed a day of Thanksgiving, but this was merely because there was none appointed for the whole land. If we claim to be a Christian nation, in which God is honored, and His blessings recognized, we should not fail to acknowledge it in a national manner.



LENNOX AND ADDINGTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

PAPERS AND RECORDS

VOL. XIII

THE NAPANEE STANDARD
1866

COMPILED AND EDITED
By M ELEANOR HERRINGTON, M A.

NAPANEE, ONTARIO
PUBLISHED BY THE SOCIETY
1928

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LENNOX AND ADDINGTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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PUBLICATIONS OF
LENNOX AND ADDINGTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Vol. I.	Chronicles of Napanee	June 12, 1909
Vol II.	Early Education	Sept. 19, 1910
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Vol IV	The Casey Scrap Books (Part) 11	June 14, 1912
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Vol. V.	The Bell and Lang Papers By C M. Warner and W. S. Herrington	March 14, 1914
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Vol XII	The Napanee Standard 1852-3 by W S. Herrington	April 11 1923
Vol. XIII	The Napanee Standard 1869 by M. Eleanor Herrington	May 30, 1923

INTRODUCTION.

Volume XII of the Papers and Records of the Society presented a series of extracts from The Napanee Standard for the years 1862 and 1863 dealing with the leading questions of the day Very few issues for the years 1864 and 1865 have been preserved but fortunately the file for the year 1863 is complete. In the following pages the writer has attempted to present an analysis of the leading editorials and news items of that eventful year The record is necessarily incomplete as it simply reflects the views of the Editor from week to week It however will now serve a useful purpose in depicting the local reaction to those events and will enable us to reconstruct to some extent the life and thought of the people of our country in that interesting period of its history.

M ELEANOR HERRINGTON

Napanee, Ont.
May, 30th, 1923

Extracts from
The Napanee Standard, 1866

The subject which engrossed the thoughts and frayed the nerves of Canadians at the beginning of the year 1866 was the threatened Fenian invasion of Canada. Throughout the United States Irish 'patriots' and sympathizers were organized into Fenian 'circles', directed by an official appropriately designated as the 'centre'. Moreover the recent suspension of hostilities between the North and the South had left a dangerous element at large, the adventurers who always attach themselves to any war, and these men were easily persuaded to swell the numbers of the Fenians. At the headquarters in New York all the machinery of government was set up under the presidency of John O'Mahony, and a council of delegates was held under the grandiloquent name of "Congress of the Irish Republic". The pretentious and magnificent schemes of the Fenians tempted many Canadians to regard them with contempt and to belittle the real danger, an attitude reflected in the editorial of March 8th.

FENIANISM

'There have been many persons in Canada who allowed themselves to be kept in continual dread during the past winter lest there should be a Fenian invasion of our fair land, to be followed by a scene of plunder and bloodshed unexampled in our history. We confess that we never yet could see what ground there existed for such apprehensions, and more than once gave expressions to these convictions through our columns. As the spring has now so far advanced that there are no probabilities of parties crossing the ice and visiting our frontier towns perhaps the apprehensions of the more timid ones may die away again.

What possible designs there could have been of a Fenian invasion of Canada we never yet could see.

The scheme with which "Gen." Sweeney has amused many an audience is that Canada will first be conquered and the English driven into the sea, and then having a country of their own, they would fit out privateer ships and man-of-war and drive England's navy and commerce from the seas, and after that, we suppose, they would procure ships and transport, unmolested, across the Atlantic an army large enough to liberate Ireland and set up the 'glorious republic.'

Anyone looking at this programme for a single moment would question the sanity of its originators unless he understood the circumstances under which it was uttered. It has been pretty generally understood that these enthusiastic war meetings, and these brave war speeches, were all for the purpose of commanding the ready funds. This money once collected and we know what generally became of it. O Mahony and his party provide themselves with a beautiful palace and are surrounded by a retinue of servants at an expense of nearly $100 000 per year, and we suppose the Swasney Roberts party are not much less extravagant in their desires. All this must come in the shape of voluntary contributions from the hard earnings of the labouring classes. When funds are low and new contributions are required it is necessary to get up something pretty sensational and that looks like real work in order to "raise the wind" again, and an invasion of Canada, without a moment's previous warning, is one of the best schemes for that purpose that can be brought forward.

Many were inclined to think at one time that as much apparently earnest talk really meant something but as it has been freely indulged in for the past two years without the first attempt being made to carry the threat into execution, there can be but few left who suppose anything was ever meant by the leaders.

But the suspension of the Habeas Corpus Act in Ireland had increased the activity of the Fenians in America and it was feared that a demonstration was being planned for St. Patrick's Day.

THE FENIAN EXCITEMENT (Mar 15)

"It is probable that the excitement in respect to the Fenians is now at its climax. During the entire winter vague rumors have been afloat that something dreadful might be expected from these desperados, but it was not until last week that the Government was in possession of such information as made them feel justified in taking the prompt steps they have at last decided upon

We are not yet informed from what sources their information was gleaned or of its precise character but the fact that the volunteers throughout the Province have, by the Governor's Proclamation, been called to arms and held ready for any emergency, goes to show that they had reason to believe something more than mere threats were intended.

It is reported that Secretary Seward has assured the British Minister at Washington that no violation of the neutrality laws will be allowed by the United States. Why is it then that these threats and demonstrations are allowed with impunity? Our own conviction is that the United States government will yet have reason to regret having allowed these men to go so far as they have as they are just about as likely to turn on the Americans themselves, as to make any real attempt at either Ireland or these Provinces."

When the volunteers of the province were called out, the citizens of Napanee realized that the only company in the county was that under the command of Captain Sweetman at Adolphustown. Accordingly we find in the issue of March 15th the report of a public meeting called for the purpose of organizing both volunteer companies and a home guard

PUBLIC MEETING

"In compliance with a requisition to that effect, the Mayor of this town called a public meeting of the inhabitants to take into consideration the necessity of raising volunteer companies, to aid in the defence of our country in case an invasion should take place. The meeting was held in the Town Hall, on Tuesday evening, and a large number of persons were present.

The Mayor took the Chair, and Mr F W. Campbell was appointed Secretary to the meeting

The Mayor alluded to the dangers that beset the country and prompted the calling of the present meeting and after making a brief speech called upon Geo Wilson, Esq., to move the first resolution. Mr Wilson then read the resolution, which was as follows —

RESOLVED,—That whereas our country is threatened with an invasion from the United States by traitors and conspirators and that owing to the impending danger the Government of Canada have considered it advisable to call out 16,000 volunteers, and to resort to other measures for the defence of this portion of Her Majesty's dominions.

And whereas the town of Napanee having for a long time been without any volunteer or organized Militia force, and being the only County Town or place of the same number of inhabitants in Upper Canada not possessing same such organization, we occupy a very unenviable and exceptional position.

And whereas, owing to the above facts this town is in a very defenceless state, and is unable to respond as other portions of the country have so nobly done and as the inhabitants of Napanee would cheerfully do to the call of the Government for volunteers

It is therefore deemed expedient and incumbent upon us the inhabitants of Napanee to shew our loyalty to the Queen and our anxiety to take part in the public defence by raising one or more volunteer or militia companies.

Mr Wilson in moving the resolution made a very loyal and patriotic speech. He said he was rejoiced to witness the brave and loyal manner in which the volunteers throughout the country had responded to the call of duty, and he regretted exceedingly that the town of Napanee was not in the list of places which had furnished their quota for the public defence He felt confident that it was from no want of loyalty in the inhabitants of Napanee that they had not a couple of volunteer companies to

send to "the front," but was owing to the fact that until quite recently they had had no persons amongst them properly qualified to officer and drill the men but now that obstacle was removed as several young gentlemen in the town had availed themselves of the facilities afforded by the Military Schools to obtain military instruction and had received either first or second class certificates he trusted therefore that the men of Napanee would retrieve their honor and show their loyalty by at once enrolling themselves as volunteers Mr Wilson was loudly applauded at the close of his remarks. Mr Thos Flynn seconded the resolution in a lengthy and eloquent speech.

Dr Bristol in a loyal and forcible speech moved the second resolution which was as follows:

Whereas, this meeting having deemed it advisable to raise one or more volunteer or militia companies, it is hereby resolved That F W Campbell Esq. and Geo. A Fraser Esq. who hold first class certificates from the Military Schools, be requested to raise two companies of volunteers, and to take all necessary steps towards having them accepted by the Government and furnished with arms and accoutrements.

It was seconded by J T Grange, Reeve of the town, who expressed himself willing to "turn out in defence of the country"

Carried unanimously

Mr Campbell thanked the meeting for the compliment they paid him in entrusting him with the discharge of so important a duty, which he said he would perform to the best of his ability. Mr Fraser also thanked the meeting and said although nothing of a speaker, he trusted he would be able to do a little in the fighting line when the proper time came

A couple of lists were then opened when a rush was made for them and a large number enrolled themselves as volunteers on each list.

The third resolution was then moved by S. S. Madden Esq. and seconded by Mr. A. Fraser. It was as follows:

Whereas in view of the more immediate danger that threatens our lives and property from ill - disposed persons that have come or may secretly come amongst us and whereas, the town being without any organized police force this meeting deems it advisable to form a home guard for the purpose of patrolling the streets at night, and guarding our homes and firesides should it become necessary for them to do so each guard or a sufficient number of them to turn out in discharge of their duty whenever called upon by the chief magistrate of the town so to do

John Stevenson, Esq, made a neat practical speech on the importance of adopting the steps that had been taken and was followed on the same subject by several other speakers amongst others Mr Kirby, an old veteran officer of 1812

Vote of thanks to the chairman and three cheers for the Queen when the meeting peaceably dispersed

When March 17th passed quietly without any hostile demonstration the general feeling was that the Fenians had been intimidated by the vigorous measures taken by the Canadian Government and the immediate reply of the volunteers In his issue of March 22nd the editor comments of the promptness of the volunteers and on the necessity for an adequate system of defence

CREDITABLE PROMPTNESS

"It is satisfactory to know that the sons of the heroic militia that so nobly came forward and defended our country in the war of 1812, and the rebellion of 1837 have not lost the same noble, patriotic spirit, and that if our land should again be invaded there are manly arms and brave hearts ready to defend it. It is encouraging to be informed that when the Government recently felt it advisable to make a call for ten thousand volunteers to protect our frontier, the whole number was supplied within half a day and in a few hours more the services of ten thousand more were tendered, but happily they were not required.

The Fenian leaders will find it far safer to make warlike speeches at home, and amuse their audiences by imaginary campaigns than to give the experiment a real test by invading our shores. So long as we are found so ready and willing to repel every invader there is but little danger to be apprehended from Fenian invasions.'

OUR MILITIA

"The excitement in this Province in connection with the recent reports of Fenian invasion has caused the people to give more attention to our means of defence than we have done previously. During the whole period of the American civil war the British Government saw the apathy that existed in this country in reference to the state of our Militia and used strong influences to rouse us to action, but as we did not appear to apprehend any immediate danger then it appeared almost impossible to induce us to shake off our apathy. If the present excitement is productive of no other good it will at any rate stimulate us to more decided action in this respect.

Up to the present time we have depended almost entirely upon the Volunteer system aided by the "regulars' from England, for our defence. It must be now obvious that something more will be required than a mere dependence upon a few enterprising young men throughout the country that are willing to sacrifice their time and business in order to receive the proper training that is necessary to fit them to enter the ranks of an army. The country has a right to demand that every inhabitant of the land shall be prepared to go out and drive back any invading foe, but they cannot be thus prepared without proper training and instructions, such as but few are now receiving. We think it is high time that measures should be taken to see that every young man shall be properly enrolled and drilled. We are so closely connected with a powerful and warlike people that in case of any disruption every man's services will be required, and every man should be kept in readiness.

We have now in Canada between 6 000 and 10,000 regulars of the British army, and there are about twenty-six thousand volunteers armed and drilled—ten thousand of whom are now on duty Besides these there are about eighty thousand men of the service Militia balloted for who must turn out whenever the Government think it necessary But this latter class would scarcely prove of any advantage, in case of actual warfare, for want of proper training

It is not at all creditable that in so large and wealthy a country as Lennox and Addington we cannot boast of a single company of volunteers, excepting the efficient troops under the command of Captain Sweatman of Adolphustown Other counties with far less interests at stake and far less inducements to make the necessary sacrifices have greatly out-stripped us in this important respect.—We trust that this stigma will not be allowed long to remain upon us Napanee is about to have two companies organized and we see no good reason why several other localities should not be equally as active in this important matter '

For the next few weeks opinions were divided whether the period of calm was only the lull before an impending storm or a sign that the Fenian danger was definitely past Then came news of a change in the Fenian plan of campaign

FENIAN RUMORS (April 12)

"People are becoming tired of reading any more the rumors with which the Fenians are so fond of amusing the public and a feeling of disgust is now provoked at the hollowness of their pretentions. Readers of the Standard will bear witness that from the beginning we have treated the thing as of little or no serious importance and have given our convictions that of the dangers that have threatened as none was of a less serious character than the threatened invasion By this time probably this conviction has become pretty general. Those who have amused themselves in trying to keep the public well informed in regard to the projected movements of these men, have lately given us to understand that Canada

is likely to be left in quietness and other fields of conquest have been selected It is said that distance lends enchantment to the view and consequently a more distant field has been selected Some have hinted that British Columbia or Vancouver Island would constitute the basis of operations, others that it was the Bermuda Islands.

Last week the New York World and Herald gave forth the intelligence—so often before given—that a blow was at once to be struck But there was a sad dwindling down in regard to the magnitude of the first achievements Instead of vanquishing Canada in a single day as before, we are now informed that a little island off the coast of New Brunswick —containing about one-half as many acres and population as Amherst Island—is to be the point of attack. The World goes on in the most ludicrous manner to give the details of the projected campaign O Mahoney is not to lead in person for since the days of the great Napoleon it has always been understood that the lives of great commanders are of too great value to be hazarded in a common engagement so one of his Generals will perform the daring feat and when the victory is proclaimed O Mahoney is to pass over and be declared President, and set up his long predicted Republic. His dominions are then to spread, and New Brunswick is to be absorbed The new empire is to receive the title of Emmetta, in honor of the noted Robert Emmett, whose name is so intimately connected with a former rebellion in Ireland and who paid the penalty with his life Several of the other particulars such as dividing the new country into three Provinces, and the General to be clad in a beautiful snuff colored coat, trimmed with green, we cannot afford space to give now We must not forbear to mention that one of the most important objects to be accomplished by the taking of this island is that as soon as possession is gained a new issue of the Fenian bonds will be thrown into market, and it is expected that with the prestige of having conquered British territory, and boarding the lion in his own den, a couple of millions might be realized in these bonds."

The 'little island off the coast of New Brunswick' that was to form the nucleus of the Fenian republic was the island of Campo Bello, in Passamaquoddy Bay. The Fenians were reported to be mustering at Eastport, Maine, and in its issue of April 19, under the ironic heading 'First battle and its results' the Standard gives the details of a raid on the British customs house on Indian Island. The next issue reports the measures adopted both by the American and British governments to frustrate the Campo Bello scheme.

FENIANISM

"The papers are carefully examined every day to see whether the Fenians that have congregated along the coasts of Maine have yet made an attack on New Brunswick. Even many of those who never before supposed that they intended fight, began to think themselves mistaken for the edges runs, where there is much smoke there must be some fire. The only fire that has yet occurred was the firing of a store house on the American side, supposed to be the work of the Fenians. The report now is that they are dispersing, and many of the poor dupes know not how to get to their homes again. It seems probable that the object of this demonstration was more to hasten the sale of bonds by showing something like real work, than anything else.

The American government has taken more decisive measures for the suppression of the movement. Last week Gen. Meade was sent to their rendezvous with a company of 150 soldiers to keep an eye on their movements. One or two vessels loaded with their arms have also been detained by the government officials and war ships have been ordered to that vicinity. The New York Times is bitter against them and asserts that so far the war they have waged has been against the United States and not Britain and demands their suppression. Probably the Americans will see yet more trouble with them.

The British have not been inactive in the meantime. Both soldiers and war ships have been sent to the defense of New Brunswick, and things are in a state of readiness to give them a warm reception

wheresoever they may find it convenient to honour our fellow colonists with a visit"

The same day on which the above article was published New York papers quoted in the next issue of the Standard were reporting the abandonment of the New Brunswick scheme and the return of the Fenians to New York. On May 10, the editor comments on the trouble this fiasco has caused in the ranks of the Fenians, and urges the necessity for further watchfulness. It is interesting to note too, the effect the Fenian danger had in hastening the confederation of the provinces.

FENIANISM AGAIN

"All the vials of wrath have now poured on the head of poor O Mahoney It is said that on returning to New York a deputation from the Eastport terribles waited on him and at once demanded an explanation for the failure of the expedition. It had been promised that transports and iron clads were to meet them at the coast of Maine and convey them to Ireland O Mahoney tried to lay the blame on Killian and denounced him as a traitor to the cause. The deputation then demanded remuneration for the time and expenses of the expedition and enforced the payment by locking up O Mahoney's mannee and presenting revolvers to his head, which of course brought him to terms and thirty dollars per head was paid them. The Head Centre was then brought before a Council of the Brotherhood and explanations again demanded. Not being able to give a satisfactory account of his stewardship he was at once deposed from power and a committee placed in guard of the papers and valuables of the establishment. It is said that over $300 have been paid in to O Mahoney during the past six months but not one dollar was to be found in the safe. Of course the brotherhood will not see the money again.

One would imagine that after so many failures, and so many exposures of dishonesty, the deluded dupes would lose faith in the whole movement Instead of this it is said that hundreds are now rushing to the standard of Roberts and Sweeney and clamouring to be led into trouble. They are "spoiling

for a fight and nothing else can satisfy them. It will be necessary for these leaders to do something at once or they too will be deposed from power. If anything can or will be done it may therefore soon be expected. It is known that the chosen ground of this party has always been Canada. We will therefore feel it necessary to be well prepared for them for sometime yet to come.

Up till this date the Fenians cannot be much flattered with the result of their efforts. In consequence of the excitement in Ireland the Habeus Corpus Act was suspended and according to the Dublin correspondent of the New York News — a Fenian authority the result has been that more Irish have left the country than can be replaced by the most magnificent army of invasion that has yet been promised, so that the case is worse than ever. In America the demonstrations against the British Provinces has done more to hasten Confederation than anything else, and this but tends to strengthen and consolidate British power. All the trouble there has yet been has been in their own ranks, and with the United States Government. There is an old adage 'give the Devil rope enough and he will hang himself.'

The dissension in Fenian circles attendant on the failure of the Campo Bello campaign brought the organizer, James Stephens, to New York from Ireland. As soon as Stephens assumed control there was an ominous lull. Greater secrecy was imposed on the garrulous brethren, but it was generally believed that Stephens' own plan was to set up their republic in Ireland rather than to attack Canada first, and for the next few weeks he allowed the report to be circulated that his only mission to America was to collect funds to be sent to Ireland, and that the invasion of Canada was abandoned.

Suddenly on the first of June the blow was struck. The Standard in its issue of June 7th does not give a connected account of the engagements, but prints the series of despatches as they were received from various points from June 1st to June 5th. From this information one can give only the first impression of the raids which a contemporary reader would have gained rather than an authentic account. It is amusing to note, by the way,

the staid manner in which the engagements are reported, when one considers the hysteria to which an invasion of the country would move a newspaper of 1928. There are no headlines across the sheet. Indeed no mention of Fenians is allowed to mar the deep peace which broods over the front page. Of its eight columns, the first three are as usual devoted to small advertisements and business directory; next come a few stanzas of "select poetry" and a story of the highly sentimental type in vogue at the period with a few moral maxims of Epictetus for padding. It is only on turning over the leaf that we learn that the enemy has been active in our midst.

It appears that on May 31st about 1300 Fenians crossed at Niagara and advanced to Frenchman's Creek. The Canadian volunteers moved from Port Colborne to Ridgeway by train, and finding the Fenians encamped in the woods engaged them, the Queen's Own firing the first shot. Several were killed on both sides, and the Fenians were driven back, but later the Queen's Own retired for want of support. Whether Colonel Booker, who was in command of the supporting troops deliberately fled or fell back mistaking the cheers of the Queen's Own for shouts of victorious Fenians, he was so severely criticized that he soon resigned his command. Colonel Peacock with a body of regulars moved by water from Chippawa against the Fenians at Fort Erie. Many Fenians retreated across the river, but on the approach of Col. Peacock's force, 700 were taken prisoners and handed over to the custody of the American armed steamer Michigan, under Commander Bryson. When the volunteers and regulars took up their position along the river opposite Buffalo, the danger of a Fenian raid from that point was over. The troops mentioned as taking part in the engagement were the Queen's Own, the 13th Hamilton battalion, the 19th and 47th regiments, the Welland and Grey batteries.

Meanwhile it was reported from Ogdensburg that Fenians were concentrating at Malone N.Y. to attack the canal at Cornwall. The 15th Battalion from Belleville and the 10th from Picton received orders on the 2nd of June to proceed at once to Prescott. Two days later the volunteers which this county could muster were summoned.

MOVEMENTS OF TROOPS

"On Sunday afternoon an order was sent up from Kingston for Captain Sweetman's company of Cavalry to report themselves at that place immediately, and although they were scattered over a large tract of country yet in about three hours they had nearly all assembled at Bath, from whence they moved on in a body to Kingston. The following named gentlemen of this town have gone with the company, —B. C. Davy, Mayor, M. P. Rollin, Registrar, C. B. Perry, Edwin Green, and Dr. Bristol."

Apparently the volunteer companies begun at the public meeting of March 15 had never materialized, as the editor feels it necessary to explain the dearth of volunteers from Napanee.

EXPLANATORY

"As many complaints are made in regard to Napanee, that while every other town and village is sending Volunteers into the field to defend our country not a single company is here even to defend our own homes, we may say by way of apology that the blame is partly due to the government. When the Volunteers throughout the country were called out some months ago two Companies of volunteers enrolled their names here and tendered their services to the Government, but an answer was received informing them that their services were not then required, but intimating that arms would be forwarded them in time so that they might drill for future purposes,—Since then there has nothing been heard from the Government in regard to the matter. This week telegrams have been sent again offering their services, but an answer has been sent thanking them and saying that their services will not be required. We hope however that our Representative will use his influence to have arms and clothing sent to them at once, so that we may be no longer without Volunteer companies.'

But steps had already been taken to remove the reproach. On Saturday, June 3 a public meeting was held to form a home guard, and reorganize the volunteer companies.

PUBLIC MEETING

"After it became known that our country had been invaded, and that our own homes were exposed it was thought advisable to hold a public meeting of the citizens of Napanee, to devise some means for our own protection Accordingly quite late on Saturday afternoon a proclamation was issued calling a meeting that evening, in the Town Hall, for the purpose and notwithstanding the short notice the Hall was completely crowded. Never have we seen more assembled in the Hall

In the absence of the Mayor the chair was occupied by J. T. Grange Esq. Reeve, who briefly explained the object of the meeting. John Stevenson Esq., was called upon and moved a resolution expressive of our feelings in reference to the wanton invasion of our land by an enemy to whom we had never given the least provocation, and the necessity of prompt measures on our part to provide for our own defence Judge Burrows briefly seconded the resolution.

Bishop Richardson of the M E. Church was then called upon and was received with great cheers. This venerable gentlemen lost one arm in the defence of our Country in the war of 1812 and gave some interesting particulars in regard to that struggle. We regret that space will not allow us to furnish a lengthy report of his interesting speech

T. W. Casey, Esq., moved the second resolution, in regard to the enrolment of a Home Guard He said while it was necessary for us to provide men to send to the battle-field, and oppose foes without it was also our duty to see to it that no mischief should be done by traitors within. Unless our streets were nightly patrolled it would be an easy matter for even four or five evil disposed ones to do us incalculable injury by applying the torch of the incendiary to our own homes It would therefore be necessary for us at once to arrange to have our streets nightly patrolled, lest advantage should be taken of the present excitement. Dr Ruttan seconded the resolution in a few well timed remarks.

A large number at once enrolled themselves as

a Home Guard, and several more as volunteers, if their services would be accepted.'

There continued to be rumors of threatened attacks at Prescott, Kingston and St. Johns in Quebec, but none materialized. The rather large force at Malone was made to disband through the vigorous action of the American Major-General Meade. This the editor points out in his issue of June 14 but at the same time can not refrain from a thrust at the American government for having allowed the Fenian organization to be developed so far

FENIANISM COLLAPSED

'Perhaps few of our readers will be much surprised at the ignoble end of the Great Fenian campaign—that was to have taken possession of Canada and then liberated Ireland from Britain's iron grasp. We could never make ourselves believe that these agitators ever seriously entertained the idea that either Canada or Ireland would ever fall into their hands and there are many others who are firmly of the opinion that a desire for plunder was the true secret of their operations.

The little sympathy they received from any portion of our inhabitants and the prompt manner in which they were repulsed had most to do with the failure of the movement though it must be admitted that the decided action of the American Government in seizing their arms and arresting their leaders had much to do with the speedy termination of the expedition.

We trust that the trouble and vast expense of which the United States Government has found it necessary to make to quell this movement which it so quietly allowed to grow up unmolested in its own territory will teach it a salutary lesson. Had it been nipped in the very bud as it might easily have been, all this trouble would have been prevented in both countries. As it is the United States were put to a greater expense and trouble than even we have been, and with them the difficulty is not yet at an end. No government should for a single day tolerate a movement as wicked in its conception and as diabolical in its design as the wanton invasion of a peaceful and

friendly people and it cannot be expected that the connivance at such an outrage will be allowed to pass unpunished.'

In spite of his brave words of explanation in the previous issue, the editor felt keenly the poor showing made by the county when the call came for volunteers

OURSELVES AND OUR NEIGHBORS

"From our neighboring Counties of Hastings and Prince Edward, over eight hundred volunteers left their homes to defend our frontier within forty-eight hours of the time their services were demanded from this County fifty all told At Belleville, we are informed every school has been closed in consequence of the teachers being away on duty and many pieces of business are nearly closed because as many connected with them are absent Both Editors are gone in the Chronicle office none but the devil is left Of the remaining citizens a large number have been enrolled and thoroughly armed as a Home Guard and are constantly on the alert.

From Prince Edward not only has the County Town furnished a large number of volunteers, but there are many from nearly every township in the county We are glad to see that the authorities are taking good care to provide for the families of those who are thus absent on duty At Picton a committee was at once appointed to attend to the wants of families whose support had been called away and a special meeting of the County Council has been held and funds voted from the general treasury for the same laudable purpose Mounted Piguets have been established along nearly the whole lakeside coast of the County where any danger might be apprehended from a landing of the invaders It has also been proposed to form a Home Guard in each Township in the County and meetings for that purpose have been held in some localities.

When we compare the activity of our neighbors to provide for the defence of our country in the present emergency with our own inactivity, who does not blush at the unenviable position we now occupy Beyond the excellant company of troops,

headed by Captain Sweetman of Adolphustown, Lennox and Addington has not furnished any companies whatever. Had our own officials displayed the same spirit and sacrifice as those of Prince Edward we doubt not but that our position now would have been equally proud for no one will say that the young men of this County are deficient in activity and courage where the country demands their services. We are glad to say however, that prompt steps are now being taken to place ourselves on a better footing. At Bath a company with W. F. Peterson, Esq., as Captain has been raised and are to be armed at once. At Tamworth there are now two companies and at Napanee Captains Campbell and Geo. Fraser respectively are drilling their recently organized companies, and are expecting arms to be furnished them in a few days.

We trust that the good work will not stop here. There is no good reason why there should not be an excellent company in every township in this County. To ensure our safety we must be in a position to inform our enemies that we are at any moment prepared to receive them. We sincerely hope and trust that another week will not elapse without efforts being made to organize companies in several of the large and respectable townships of which we have not yet been able to hear in connection with the volunteer movement. Let the men of South Fredericksburgh of Richmond, of Ernesttown, and of Camden, give us to understand that they are not behind their neighbors in this important enterprise."

It happened that four men from the county students at the University of Toronto, had taken part in the engagement at Ridgeway as members of the Queen's Own. The following extract from the report of the County Council meeting of June 29th shows that the county was not unappreciative of their services.

"Moved by Mr. Hum seconded by Mr. Paul, That, as several of the young men of this county, while attending the University at Toronto, and belonging to the Queen's Own volunteers, were called upon to do duty on the Niagara Frontier during the late invasion by Fenians, having nobly responded to

the call and served during the engagement at Ridgeway, this Council do as a slight token of the appreciation which the people of this County have of their devotion to their country, present each of such volunteers viz Messrs. Smythe, Carey, Deroche and Nichols, with the sum of Twenty dollars, and the same be paid over to order of the respective Reeves of the Municipalities in which the said volunteers reside, to be presented to them on behalf of this corporation Carried."

Meanwhile there were intermittent rumors of other attempts by the Fenians and the newly organized volunteers of Napanee were hard at work, determined to wipe out the former reproach of unpreparedness

VOLUNTEER INSPECTION (July 28)

'On Thursday evening of last week Brigade-Major Shaw visited this town for the purpose of inspecting the Artillery Company here Although the officers of the company were not aware of the intended inspection till the usual hour for drill yet a full company was mustered. The men were put through the various military evolutions in which they had been instructed and moved with a regularity that was very creditable, considering the short period they have been under drill The Brigade-Major, after passing through the ranks, addressed the company at considerable length He expressed himself highly pleased with their appearance, and said he would have much pleasure in reporting favorably of them to the Adjutant-General He referred to the unenviable notoriety which Napanee had gained during the late Fenian excitement both at the Adjutant-General's office and throughout the district, and hoped that our reputation would be retrieved by displaying more of a patriotic and military spirit in the future "

Although many of the seven hundred Fenians captured at Fort Erie had escaped, there still remained in Canada about two hundred prisoners, a sufficient number to prove a source of embarrassment to the government as to their trial

FENIAN TRIALS (June 21)

"It does not appear that our Government have yet been able to arrive at a decision in regard to the Fenian prisoners now in our hands. According to the provisions of our Statutes they may either be tried by Military Commission or in our Civil Courts, but it has not yet been announced which will be resorted to; it is probable the latter, however.—It will doubtless be an exceedingly difficult matter to do much with them in our civil courts. A foreign citizen found with arms in his hands, invading the country in time of peace, and trying to plunder, is liable to the death penalty. But scarcely any of these were found with arms in their hands, and nearly all of them assert that they were merely spectators who had no part in the invasion. Several have proved that they were such, and it will be a difficult matter to show, by direct evidence such as a Court would require before inflicting capital punishment, that any of them were personally engaged in the battle. It will be remembered that no prisoners were taken at Fort Erie on the battle field or even under arms, and under such circumstances it would be difficult to prove their guilt, unless they turn evidence against each other.

The Attorney General has announced that they shall be treated as brigands and marauders, but even if their guilt could be clearly established, it would be too much like butchery to put to death nearly two hundred prisoners, many of whom are mere boys and dupes of designing men. The principal officers, if we but had them, could well be made an example of, but they took good care to secure their escape.

It does not appear that the Canadian Government has made any demand for the prisoners taken by the American authorities near Fort Erie. As there must be good evidence furnished here of the guilt of each individual before he can be claimed under the Extradition treaty it is at once evident that it would be no easy task to claim them, and even if in our hands it would be a question what way to dispose of them. We regret that some efforts are not made to procure O'Neil. As the leader of the

party it would not be so difficult to prove his guilt and his punishment would not be such a questionable matter

The American government has undertaken the trial of "President" Roberts and after two days investigation it has been abandoned Certainly in this case their Courts present a pitiable spectacle It was announced by the prosecuting Attorney that in consequence of the intimidations and threats of violence to those that might be witnesses against him they could not safely be brought into court Witnesses whose evidence went to substantiate any of the charges preferred would be openly hissed by the spectators, and loud cheers given when anything was brought out favourable to the prisoner In Canada where the order and dignity of our courts have always been maintained, these facts appear strange enough Certainly the admirers of democratic institutions among us must see, from time to time enough defects in the American system to convince them of the superiority of our own

Since it had been decided to give the prisoners a civil rather than a military trial they were kept in custody during the summer and brought up before the judge at the fall assizes in October

FENIAN PRISONERS (Oct. 25)

"The Court at Toronto is engaged in the trial of the Fenian prisoners now in custody at that city The evidence for the prosecution has been laid before the Grand Jury, and a true bill has been found against several, others have not yet been brought into court, but all will be as fast as the business can be proceeded with It is understood that the trial will be continued until all are disposed of Over two hundred witnesses are now in Toronto summoned to attend these trials. The great difficulty is to identify the men, as being of the number in the Fenian ranks, as none of them were found under arms at the time of their apprehension

The American Consul attends the court daily to observe the progress of the trial on behalf of the prisoners, and those that claim to be American cit-

lzens will he supplied with money to enable them to defray the expenses of their defense"

Many of the prisoners were acquitted through lack of evideuce bot at Toroute two were convicted and condemned to deoth—a Col James Lyech (in Dec 13th issue called Robert E Lynch) whn had claimed that he was the reporter for a Louisville paper and not a combatant, and Rev John McMahon The interventinn of the American Secretary of State which moved the editor nf the Standard to euch indignation was so far effective that it secured a three months' respite for the condemned, Lynch, McMahon, and five others, Wm. Steven, Wm. Hayden, Deniel Whalen, J Quinn and Thomas School, whose execotion had been eet for the same date

SENTENCE OF THE FENIAN PRISONERS (Nov 1)

"Justice" says the old adage "has a leaden foot but an iron hand" elow to move hut ternble to strike. So it hes proved in the ease of our Fenian Prisoners, against whom sentence has been pronounced.

The many months thet have been allowed to transpire hetween the epprehension and trial of these men caused a universal murmur ot the tardiness nf nor government, but eow that some have been held there is regret that there is so much severity in the prescribed punishment. It is uot however probable that, if the others are found guilty their punishment will be as great as in the case of Col Lynch, and the Rev McMahon. The majority of the others are young—mere boys,, and of but little intelligeuce, it would therefore he an injustice to deal as severely with them.

Great efforts are being made to procure the pardon of these condemoed men, particularly on the part of the United States. Public meetings of the Fenians ere being held and speeches of the most inflammtory character indulged in of what Canadians may expect in case these sentences are carried into effect. Resolutions are also adopted calling upon the President to use his influence to procure their release So far as the effect of these speeches may go they will be of hut questionable edvantage to those for whom the pretended sympathy was extended. It

is well known that Britons, wherever you may find them, are not easily intimidated into submission, even by those who may have the power to carry their threats into execution—but Fenian threats have become so familiar during the past year or two, to us, that they pass for merely empty words

The fact that the Washington Government has acted so promptly in endeavouring to procure their release will do but little in their favour Had the same government been as prompt in its efforts to suppress the movement in the very outset these men would never have troubled us at all. No reason can be advanced why leniency should be extended to these men; there is no palliation for their crime Had it been the scheme of some thoughtless young men, attempted at the impulse of the moment, and heartily regretted immediately after, it would be then quite pardonable But it was premeditated, to the full knowledge of the Washington Government, for months previous to its execution, and even since we have been unmistakably informed that nothing but their much regretted want of ability prevents these same hordes from overrunning and subjugating us, depriving us of our much valued liberty And yet this is the very class of men that Secretary Seward and President Johnson would fain have us treat with unusual forbearance! Their own conduct towards the invaders is anything but creditable. The man who assaults a loafer is straightly fined for the offence, but the men who invaded Canada, shot down six of our brave men, plundered and pillaged as much as they could, are let go without even the form of a trial, as an offence too trivial to be noticed Save us from our friends if these are to be considered as such'

While the subject of the Fenian raids loomed so large that it seemed best to treat it as a separate topic, there were other questions of interest discussed through the same number of the Standard. In the issue of Jan 26th the editor comments very wisely on the reciprocity treaty, which had been in force since 1854 but was abrogated by the United States this same year, 1866

RECIPROCITY TREATY

Messrs Galt and Howland are now at Washington using their best endeavours to secure a continuance of the present Reciprocity Treaty or to negotiate for another So far as we can learn their mission does not promise to be very successful The American Government appear determined either to annul the Treaty altogether or exact from us conditions neither just nor politic

We regret sometimes that our Government has displayed as much anxiety in regard to this Treaty These numerous missions to Washington and the many other attempts that have been made to secure its continuance all go to confirm our neighbours in the belief that we look upon the Treaty as all-important to our commercial existence, and would be willing to make almost any sacrifice sooner than forego its advantages Every effort made embolden them to demand greater concessions on our part and to act imperatively in the matter

The Treaty has been of advantage to the United States as well as Canada, and it is high time they were unmistakably informed we can prosper without its provisions Many further concessions on our part would be purchasing its advantages at entirely too dear a rate, and if they will not be satisfied with what is just and fair we might as well give up the beggarly attempt first at last.

It might be interesting to note how the editor's view is borne out by a modern historian "It was a mutual benefit, but through some mistaken view, or narrow trade policy, the United States refused to continue the treaty after the year 1866 Its cessation created a considerable derangement of trade between the two countries but the compulsory development of many branches of home industry by Canada has given a self dependence and energy to Canadians" (A Short History of the Canadian People, by George Bryce)

The question of confederation was no longer a vital issue in Canada West, as our province was then called, but the interest was centred in the Maritime provinces where the advocates of confederation were labouring to have the scheme adopted by their respective govern-

ments It will be noted that it was believed that Newfoundland would form one of the provinces of the new Canada

"There appears to be good evidence that the Eastern Provinces are inclined to reconsider their rejection of the Confederation scheme New Brunswick we are informed is about to intimate its acceptance and a coalition Ministry is promised having this as the specific object of its formation In Newfoundland both branches of the legislature have accepted the plan decided upon at Quebec. Let Nova Scotia follow the example and our projected 'new nationality' will soon be realised" (Mar 8)

The abrogation of the reciprocity treaty revived the disputes over the fisheries along the Atlantic seaboard, which were to be settled five years later by the treaty of Washington

THE FISHERIES

"From a private letter recently received from Ottawa we are informed that at the seat of Government more trouble is apprehended from the position of the Fishery question than from all the blather and threats of the Feolans. One of the most prolific sources of dispute between the British Government and that of the United States for many years has been in regard to the rights of fishing in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, the Bay of Fundy and other points on the coast of the Maritime Provinces. It is known that some of the most valuable fisheries in the world for mackerel and cod are along the shores above mentioned and the profits connected with them have been earnestly coveted by our American neighbors.

By the law of nations each country is allowed to have exclusive jurisdiction over those waters lying within three miles from its own land and in reference to this point there has been but little grounds of dispute when the American fishermen were excluded from these limits but the great source of difficulty has been in regard to the inlets and bays where the headlands have not been over three miles apart Those the British Government has claimed as part of its territory and this claim has been re-

sisted by our neighbors, who have contended on the other hand that so long as they were not fishing within three miles of the coast they had a right to do so, even though they were compelled to pass thro British waters to reach these grounds

This question has been dealt with by several treaties between the two governments, but no satisfactory understanding has been arrived at in reference to the inlets and bays, and on several occasions collisions were imminent in consequence

According to the provisions of the Reciprocity Treaty, American citizens were granted the privilege of fishing in these Provincial waters, and consequently the troubles in regard to the fishery question have ceased to exist during the past eleven years. The abrogation of the Treaty has again opened up the question and now that these privileges have been so long enjoyed, the contention will probably become keener then before. With such a valuable source of wealth before their eyes, the Americans are very reluctant to let the opportunity slip and we doubt not that every means will be used to evade the restrictions placed upon them Our Government appear determined however to see that our rights are not encroached upon and some weeks ago a proclamation was issued warning all foreigners not to infringe on our territories for fishing purposes, and it is intended during the season to keep vessels along the coast with power and instructions to keep off invaders

Not to be outdone in this manner, the United States have ordered some war vessels and a monitor to the same waters to see to it that their citizens shall be fully protected What the result of these demonstrations and counter demonstrations may be it is difficult to tell but it is easily seen that with so many questions of dispute as will doubtless arise and with armed vessels on either side, ready to resent any grievance real or imaginary, and with a hostile feeling already in existence between the two parties, it will be an easy matter to drift into difficulties that may lead to serious results There are not a few among the Americans that would gladly see hostilities between the two countries, and it will re-

quire prudence and skill on the part of the better classes of the community to avert such a calamity

At this time the United States were passing through a very trying period of reconstruction. Some of the perplexing questions were the restitution of the political privileges of the Southern States, the treatment of the freed slaves the trial of the rebel leaders. The editor gives a summary of some of the difficulties in an editorial of April 19th

AFFAIRS AT WASHINGTON

The position of affairs in the United States is becoming still more critical,—Peace has been declared but harmony does not yet prevail At present hostilities are confined to a war of words The difficulties between President Johnson and the House of Representatives and the Senate are of such a character that it is not easily seen upon what terms a compromise can be effected between them President Johnson's policy appears to be to allow the South to enter at once into all their former privileges and liberties giving full permission for the regulation of all state laws and institutions. The Legislature on the other hand appear determined to treat the rebels as a vanquished people and to lay down pretty strict regulations for their future guidance refusing to allow them their former privileges until these are asserted to and complied with

As might be expected, the negro is the great source of all the difficulty.—The Legislature claims that his position shall be clearly defined by the Federal Government, while the President insists upon it that each state must be allowed to deal with him as it may deem best. To define his position two acts were passed by the Legislature known respectively as the Freedman's Bureau and the Civil Rights bills. Both these were rejected by the President but the latter has become the law of the land in spite of his veto, by virtue of its having received the assent of two thirds of the Legislators.

The President has just issued a Proclamation declaring the war at an end, and that consequently the States lately in rebellion are now entitled to all their former privileges again This the Legislature

denies by refusing to allow the representatives from those states seats in their body How this difficulty is to be determined time will soon show

These differences of feeling and policy have brought about much personal animosity President Johnson on his part has in a public speech declared his opponents to be traitors as great as those just vanquished on the battle field, and leaves the impression that he would gladly have them treated as such. His friends are hinting in plain terms that it is high time that Cromwell like he should send them away about their business and take the full reins of power in his own hands The leading Republicans declare on the other hand that the President should be impeached and deposed from power Of course there is a middle class between these two extremes that would gladly reconcile these difficulties if they could, but it is doubtful whether their wise councils will prevail

There are strong arguments to be used by each party in support of the views respectively held The Democrats urge that these States cannot longer be kept out of the Union without violence to the constitution From the beginning the Federal government desired that any State could leave the Union and this point having been conceded it is contrary to the constitution to withhold from them any of the privileges which the Union confers and that if they are now kept out by the action of the Federal Government, they may remain out by their own act. The Republicans reply that war was declared and waged in consequence of slavery and until it is thoroughly eradicated and that with the consent of the conquered peace cannot be fully proclaimed again

The Proclamation just issued will have the tendency to establish the United States courts again in each of the States and we may therefore expect that Jefferson Davis Clay and others who have long been kept in prison, charged with high treason will receive their trials or be set at liberty Certainly it is high time that something should be done with them. It is not just to them or to the people that they should be longer kept. If they are guilty,

punishment should be as prompt as possible if innocent they are entitled to liberty.

One of the most important achievements of the year was the laying of the Atlantic cable. The editor very rightly applauds as one of the wonders of the age a convenience to which we have grown so accustomed that we take it quite for granted. Before this the European news in the Standard was always headed "Arrival of the City of Paris" or whatever might be the name of the ship that brought the despatches. Now there is a proud heading in very heavy type "By Atlantic Cable."

ATLANTIC TELEGRAPH (Aug. 16)

"The Atlantic telegraph cable is now in beautiful working order and messages are being daily transmitted. The cable between Newfoundland and the main coast, which has been for some time out of order, has been repaired, so that despatches between England and America are subject to no delay.

As an evidence of the rapidity with which news is now transmitted we may state that on Tuesday news that was published in the Paris Moniteur in the morning was sent to London, and thence by Atlantic cable, and republished in our Canada papers the same afternoon.—Truly this is an age of wonders.

The Great Eastern is now coaling and preparing for her voyage to pick up the lost end of the last years' cable so as to complete its laying, and will go to sea in a day or two."

An attempt had been made the year before to lay the cable, but it had to be abandoned when the cable broke in mid ocean. The finding and splicing the ends of the cable was successfully accomplished in 1865, after the second cable was in operation.

THE LOST CABLE (Sept. 6)

"To us it appears that the fact of the broken and lost cable of last year being again recovered, and likely to be successfully complete, is a far greater marvel of science than anything else that has occurred during the nineteenth century. Had it been successfully laid without misfortune a year ago

it would have been one of the wonders of the age, but greater still is the achievement of completing it under the extremely unfavourable circumstances that had to be contended with

That a small wire, of but few inches in diameter lost in mideocean, thousands of miles from shore, or any land mark without anything to indicate the spot where it lay and with no means of ascertaining but from observations taken from the stars of heaven, should be gone to months after it was lost, and successfully picked up from near two miles under the surface speaks volumes for the progress of human science. We wonder taking it all together whether the world has yet witnessed such a triumph of human skill as the successful working of the Atlantic Telegraph Cable of 1866.

These Maritime provinces that had been induced to reconsider their first rejection of the confederation plan had already sent delegates to England. In the Standard of October 13 we learn that representatives from Canada too were on their way to lay the proposal before the British Parliament.

DELEGATION TO ENGLAND

"At last we are informed that our Government has arranged to send delegates to England to confer with the Imperial Government, and with the delegates from the Eastern Province in regard to the details of the Confederation scheme. As the other delegates have been there for a couple of months we have many times wondered why ours were not sent before this time, but there may be sufficient reasons that we know not of.—Messrs. McDonald and McDougall are to represent Upper Canada and Cartier and Langevin the Eastern Province. It is understood that as soon as they arrive in England they will at once apply themselves to the task of arriving at a satisfactory arrangement in regard to the Confederation matter and in case success crowns their efforts a measure will be introduced into British Parliament in January, to confirm and consummate the whole scheme. In that case our own Parliament will not be convened again, and we may expect to be called upon before many months to el-

ect representatives for both the Confederate and the Local Legislatures As Lennox and Addington are now divided into two constituencies and as each county will have two posts to fill some new men will be required for the purpose, and it would be wisdom on the part of our people to be looking about them for some good men and true to fill these important situations.

When we turn to the consideration of domestic affairs, we find that the editor shows just as shrewd judgment. The picture he draws of the thoroughfares of Napanee in his time is more interesting than attractive, and it is strange to note the keen dread of the cholera a disease almost unknown in Canada now, thanks to the progress made along the very lines advocated by the editor

THE CHOLERA (Mar 8)

'We observe by our exchanges that in almost every city and town in the Province the inhabitants are making arrangements to do what they can, to make preparations to mitigate as far as possible the ravages of the cholera should it visit our shores during the coming summer It has existed during the last year in almost every European country and already some cases have been reported on this continent, and it is not therefore probable we shall be able to escape its visit during the present season Having such a timely forewarning we have plenty of opportunity to take every precaution against it and thereby save ourselves from much of its fatality We do not intend just now to throw out any suggestions in regard to what means should be resorted to but merely wish to call the attention of our authorities to the subject. The spring is now upon us, and warm weather will soon set in, and it is high time that the 'Town Fathers' of Napanee should begin in earnest to see that every effort will be made to spare the lives and health of our citizens. Every kind of filth should be removed from our lanes and by-places, and yards and cellars should be thoroughly cleansed It is high time too that a word should be said about the pig-styes, slaughter-houses, and such like places from which fevers and other dis-

eases are generally spread. While our pen is running we would beg leave to suggest that some little efforts should be made this year in regard to the annoyances that almost every inhabitant has heretofore felt from the unrestricted liberty granted to the hordes of hogs, geese cows and dogs that have been permitted to roam about our streets and commit every kind of annoying depradations that their inclinations may suggest. A people so highly taxed as ourselves for municipal purposes ought to derive some further benefits from our municipal government.

OUR STREETS (Aug 2.)

"Many, and we think, well founded complaints are made against our town Council for the filthy manner in which our streets are allowed to remain. In no town of the same pretentions in any part of the province have we seen the principal streets in such a disorderly condition as those of Napanee. At this the most sickly season of the year when every precaution should be taken not to allow any filth to accumulate the sides of our streets in many places are puddles of water and mud, and this just in front of the doors of some of the principal places of business only to dry up by the natural course of evaporation.

We wonder, too, that our principal street should be used as a general depository for the offal and sweepings of every shop whose occupant has not tidiness enough about him to otherwise dispose of his rubbish. No where else hardly will one see the fronts of the shops of the principal street made a depository for packing boxes, salt barrels, stench producing hides, bushes, and whatever else it may be convenient to throw in it. We wonder that shop owners themselves have not more taste, but lacking this, it is the duty of our Council to instruct its officers to see to it that some respect shall be paid to the ordinary rules of decency and cleanliness.

We have felt reluctant to speak in regard to this matter hoping that some time our officials would take it in hand but being urged so frequently to it, we call their attention to a fact which appears to

have entirely escaped their notice and sincerely hope that all further cause of complaint will be speedily removed

The reprehensible practice of allowing all kinds of wares especially edge tools to be hung over the side walks or in exposed places should also be prevented —The sword of Damocles was but little more dangerous than some of these man traps that we might mention. The writer speaks of these from his own experience. One day last week two scythes suspended on a nail just over the side walk fell on his devoted head and the good fortune of one falling back downwards across his neck saved him a severe gash, and the owner a heavy bill of costs

When the County Council refused to help in the erection of a drill shed for the new volunteer companies the editor vigorously denounced the short-sightedness of their action. Could he have foreseen it, his counsel was not to prevail until 1914.

A DRILL-SHED (Sept. 20)

"It will be seen by our published report of the proceedings of the County Council that the application made for a grant to assist in erecting a Drill-shed here has been rejected—only five members voting in its favour. We regret that such a decision has been made and we think that a majority of the tax-payers of the county will join us in this regret.

If the events of the last year have taught us any thing they have demonstrated the imperative necessity there exists in making every endeavour to develope our own sources of defence, by giving every encouragement to our Volunteer Companies to become thoroughly drilled and disciplined so that when their services may be required they will be ready for the emergency. Throughout the whole country Lennox and Addington obtained an unenviable notoriety, in June last, for its apparent apathy in regard to the protection of our homes and our country, and we fear that, unless our county officials manifest more liberality than they have yet shown, we will be but little better prepared when the necessity again arises, for it must be evident to

every one that without a good Drill-shed the volunteers drill here must soon be virtually at an end for months to come.

There are now a number of companies in this vicinity, and to their credit it can be said that they have made no small sacrifice to endeavour to prepare themselves for efficiency by a thorough drill. Young men are now in the habit of coming regularly several miles here to drill after having laboured hard during the day and it is well known that during the long winter evenings there will be much more time and leisure for this desirable purpose, but drilling will be impossible without suitable shelter from the severity and inclemency of the weather. It is well known that there is not now any building in the county suitable for a battalion drill and unless such is provided the sacrifice labour and expense already incurred will be almost entirely lost and those who have come nobly forward and volunteered will be discouraged at the apathy manifested.

Recognizing the necessity there is in every locality for Drill-sheds the government has made provision to assist in their erection, by doubling the amount of money raised by the local authorities for that purpose. Our Town Council voted the sum of $500 to assist in such an erection here, and Mr. Cartwright, with his accustomed liberality, offered an eligible lot of land gratuitously, for the site and it was thought that, as the object was not a mere local one the County Council would have no hesitation in granting a small sum necessary to secure for us a permanent building. That body must either have decided that the object was not worthy of their assistance, or that this municipality ought to incur the whole expense. In either case we must dissent from their conclusion. It is useless to argue that a Drill shed is not a necessity if our Volunteers are worth the keeping at all for that is well known, neither is it just to place the whole burden upon Napanee, for the object is not one of mere local importance. The building is designed for the whole County, as it would be unreasonable to expect one in every locality where a company has been formed.

Its great necessity is to drill the companies together as a Battalion, and this would include not those of this municipality alone

If the County Council has thought the tax-payers would not cheerfully bear the small additional amount of taxation that such a grant would involve, we question whether it has an adequate idea of the people's liberality. Who is there that would object to an outlay of a few shillings— for this is all that it would amount to on each individual—for the patriotic purpose of assisting to defend our noble Province against the invasion of its enemies? We trust that this matter will yet be reconsidered and that a more liberal spirit will be shown next time.

It would be difficult to find a more fitting conclusion than the editor's remarks on Thanksgiving printed on Dec 20th, 1866

THANKSGIVING.

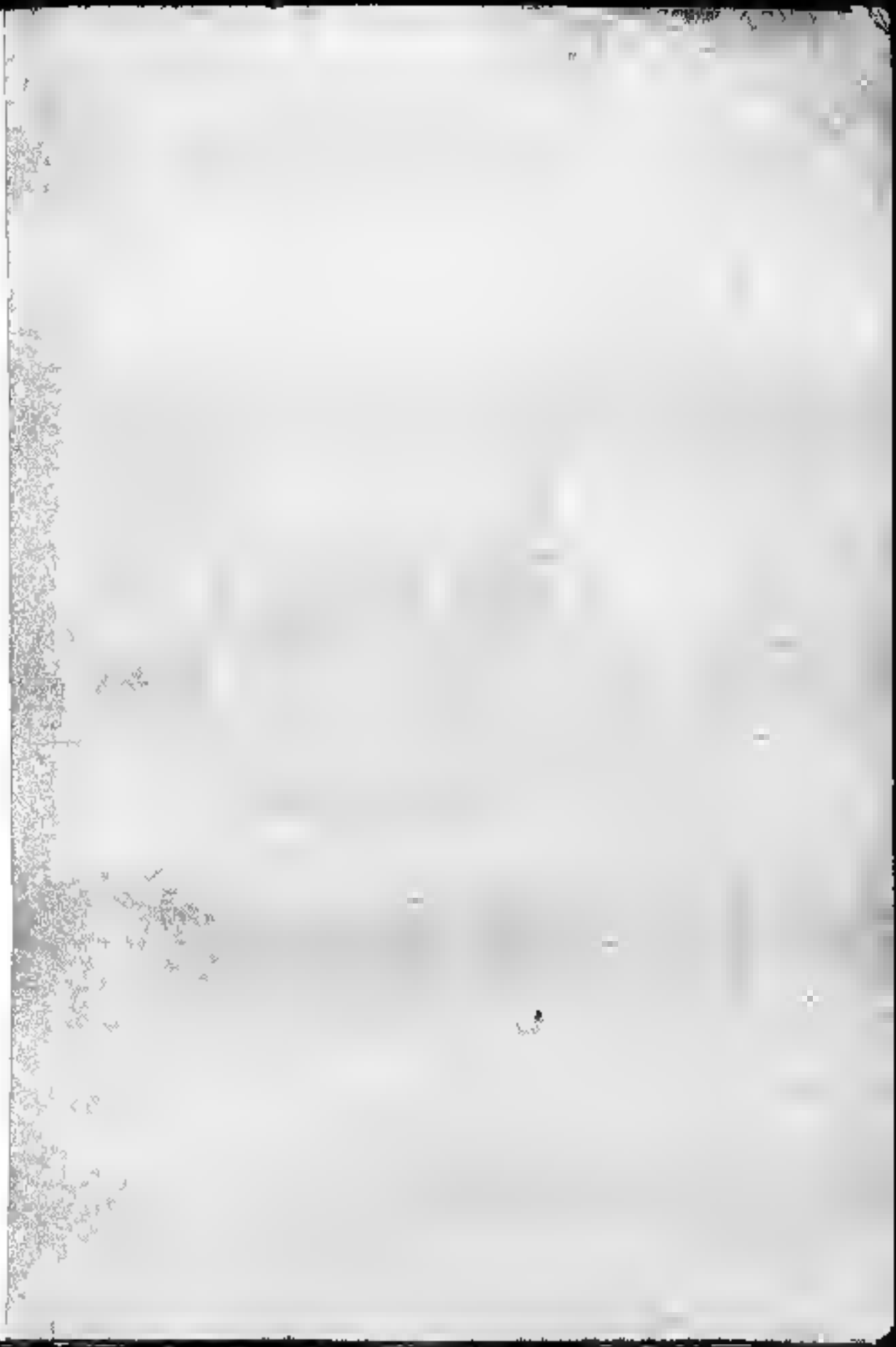
We had entertained the hope that in consideration of the great mercies and blessings with which our country has been favored during the present year, the Governor would have issued his proclamation appointing a day of national thanksgiving to the Father of mercies, but the year has so far gone that there is no probability such will be done. We exceedingly regret this for in no year has the hand of providence been more visible in our protection than in that just drawing to a close Menaced as we were at the beginning of this year with a formidable invasion, for which thousands have been expended, and great preparations were made and in which so many were eager to join even the most brave saw there was great danger, and but little probability that the effort would result in so little disaster to ourselves. Had not the hand of providence interposed in our behalf, and brought to conclusion the bloody designs of these wicked men who does not feel that though they might have been vanquished and driven back again yet it would have been a serious calamity to ourselves. Trace the history of those designs from their beginning to their failure and conviction is irresistible that our cause was defended by more than human wisdom The immun-

fty with which we have escaped the dire ravages of the cholera, that threatened us at the beginning of this year, is a great cause of thankfulness. In various parts of Europe, in England, and near by us in the United States thousands of families have been bereaved by its ravages; but here with the exception of a very few cases, the cup of sorrow has been directed to pass by. The year has been one of unusual good health—a subject for profound gratitude.

The commercial prosperity of the year has not been among the smallest of our blessings. Twelve months ago our commercial prospects were not so cheerful as at the beginning of many former years. The Reciprocity Treaty, that appeared so necessary to our prosperity, was about to be abrogated; the close of the war in the United States threatened to bring with it many of those commercial evils that always follow a period of inflation; and the great financial crisis in England, that swept down many a house of long and honorable standing, all threatened us with more than usual misfortunes.

But notwithstanding all these things Canada has enjoyed a year of its greatest prosperity. An abundant harvest was given us, new openings for our trade were presented, prices have been remunerative, and at no time has our business relations at home and abroad presented a more cheering aspect.

Peace, health, and prosperity—all God's choicest blessings to any nation—demand our national thanksgiving, in a noticeable way; and we deem it the duty of our government to set apart a day for this special purpose. Several of our churches have set apart and duly observed a day of Thanksgiving; but this was merely because there was none appointed for the whole land. If we claim to be a Christian nation, in which God is honored, and His blessings recognized, we should not fail to acknowledge it in a national manner.



LENNOX AND ADDINGTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

PAPERS AND RECORDS

VOL. XIII

THE NAPANEE STANDARD
1866

COMPILED AND EDITED
By M. ELEANOR HERRINGTON M A.

NAPANEE, ONTARIO
PUBLISHED BY THE SOCIETY
1928

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LENNOX AND ADDINGTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

PAPERS AND RECORDS

VOL. XIII

THE NAPANEE STANDARD
1866

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PUBLICATIONS OF
LENNOX AND ADDINGTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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Wilson.....April 1, 1922

Vol. XI The North American, 1862-4 . April 10, 1929

Vol XII. The Napanee Standard, 1892-9 April 11, 1929
by W S Herrington

Vol. XIII. The Napanee Standard, 1969 May 30, 1929
by M Eleanor Herrington

INTRODUCTION.

Volume XII of the Papers and Records of the Society presented a series of extracts from The Napanee Standard for the years 1882 and 1883 dealing with the leading questions of the day. Very few issues for the years 1884 and 1885 have been preserved but fortunately the file for the year 1883 is complete. In the following pages the writer has attempted to present an analysis of the leading editorials and news items of that eventful year. The record is necessarily incomplete as it simply reflects the views of the Editor from week to week. It, however, will now serve a useful purpose in depicting the local reaction to those events and will enable us to reconstruct to some extent the life and thought of the people of our country in that interesting period of its history.

M ELEANOR HERRINGTON.

Napanee, Ont.
May, 30th, 1928.

Extracts from The Napanee Standard, 1866

The subject which engrossed the thoughts and frayed the nerves of Canadians at the beginning of the year 1866, was the threatened Fenian invasion of Canada. Throughout the United States, Irish "patriots" and sympathizers were organized into Fenian "circles", directed by an official appropriately designated as the "centre". Moreover, the recent suspension of hostilities between the North and the South had left a dangerous element at large, the adventurers who always attach themselves to any war, and these men were easily persuaded to swell the numbers of the Fenians. At the headquarters in New York all the machinery of government was set up under the presidency of John O'Mahony, and a council of delegates was held, under the grandiloquent name of "Congress of the Irish Republic". The pretentions and magnificent schemes of the Fenians tempted many Canadians to regard them with contempt and to belittle the real danger, an attitude reflected in the editorial of March 8th

FENIANISM

"There have been many persons in Canada who allowed themselves to be kept in continual dread during the past winter lest there should be a Fenian invasion of our fair land, to be followed by a scene of plunder and bloodshed unexampled in our history. We confess that we never yet could see what ground there existed for such apprehensions, and more than once gave expressions to those convictions through our columns. As the spring has now so far advanced that there are no probabilities of parties crossing the ice and visiting our frontier towns perhaps the apprehensions of the more timid ones may die away again.

What possible designs there could have been of a Fenian invasion of Canada we never yet could see

The scheme with which "Gen." Sweeney has amused many an audience is that Canada will first be conquered, and the English driven into the sea, and then having a country of their own, they would fit out privateer ships and men-of-war ,and drive England's navy and commerce from the seas, and after that, we suppose, they would procure ships, and transport, unmolested, across the Atlantic an army large enough to liberate Ireland and set up the "glorious republic."

Anyone looking at this programme for a single moment would question the sanity of its originatom unless he understood the circumstances under which it was uttered It has been pretty generally understood that these enthusiastic war meetings, and these brave war speeches, were all for the purpose of commanding the ready funds. This money once collected, and we know what generally became of it. O'Mahony and his party provide themselves with a beautiful palace, and are surrounded by a retinue of servants at an expense of nearly $100,000 per year; and we suppose the Sweeney-Roberts party are not much less extravagant in their desires All this must come in the shape of voluntary contributions from the hard earnings of the labouring classes. When funds are low and new contributions are required it is necessary to get up something pretty sensational, and that looks like real work, in order to "raise the wind" again, and an invasion of Canada, without a moment's previous warning, is one of the best schemes for that purpose that can be brought forward.

Many were inclined to think at one time that so much apparently earnest talk really meant something, but as it has been freely indulged in for the past two years, without the first attempt being made to carry the threat into execution, there can be but few left who suppose anything was ever meant by the leaders"

But the suspension of the Habeas Corpus Act in Ireland had increased the activity of the Fenians in America, and it was feared that a demonstration was being planned for St. Patrick's Day.

THE FENIAN EXCITEMENT (Mar. 15)

"It is probable that the excitement in respect to the Fenians is now at its climax. During the entire winter vague rumors have been afloat that something dreadful might be expected from these desperados, but it was not until last week that the Government was in possession of such information as made them feel justified in taking the prompt steps they have at last decided upon.

We are not yet informed from what sources their information was gleaned or of its precise character, but the fact that the volunteers throughout the Province have, by the Governor's Proclamation, been called to arms and held ready for any emergency, goes to show that they had reason to believe something more than mere threats were intended.

It is reported that Secretary Seward has assured the British Minister at Washington that no violation of the neutrality laws will be allowed by the United States. Why is it then that these threats and demonstrations are allowed with impunity? Our own conviction is that the United States government will yet have reason to regret having allowed these men to go so far as they have, as they are just about as likely to turn on the Americans themselves, as to make any real attempt at either Ireland or these Provinces"

When the volunteers of the province were called out, the citizens of Napanee realized that the only company in the county was that under the command of Captain Sweatman at Adolphustown. Accordingly we find in the issue of March 15th the report of a public meeting called for the purpose of organizing both volunteer companies and a home guard

PUBLIC MEETING

"In compliance with a requisition to that effect, the Mayor of this town called a public meeting of the inhabitants to take into consideration the necessity of raising volunteer companies, to aid in the defence of our country in case an invasion should take place. The meeting was held in the Town Hall, on Tuesday evening, and a large number of persons were present.

The Mayor took the Chair, and Mr. F. W. Campbell was appointed Secretary to the meeting.

The Mayor alluded to the dangers that beset the country and prompted the calling of the present meeting, and after making a brief speech called upon Geo. Wilson, Esq., to move the first resolution. Mr. Wilson then read the resolution, which was as follows:—

RESOLVED,—That whereas our country is threatened with an invasion from the United States by traitors and conspirators, and that owing to the impending danger the Government of Canada have considered it advisable to call out 10,000 volunteers, and to resort to other measures for the defence of this portion of Her Majesty's dominions.

And whereas the town of Napanee having for a long time been without any volunteer or organized Militia force, and being the only County Town or place of the same number of inhabitants in Upper Canada not possessing some such organization, we occupy a very unenviable and exceptional position.

And whereas, owing to the above facts this town is in a very defenceless state, and is unable to respond as other portions of the country have so nobly done and as the inhabitants of Napanee would cheerfully do to the call of the Government for volunteers.

It is therefore deemed expedient and incumbent upon us the inhabitants of Napanee to show our loyalty to the Queen and our anxiety to take part in the public defence by raising one or more volunteer or militia companies.

Mr. Wilson in moving the resolution made a very loyal and patriotic speech. He said he was rejoiced to witness the brave and loyal manner in which the volunteers throughout the country had responded to the call of duty, and he regretted exceedingly that the town of Napanee was not in the list of places which had furnished their quota for the public defence. He felt confident that it was from no want of loyalty in the inhabitants of Napanee that they had not a couple of volunteer companies to

send to "the front," but was owing to the fact that until quite recently they had had no persons amongst them properly qualified to officer and drill the men, but now that obstacle was removed as several young gentlemen in the town had availed themselves of the facilities afforded by the Military Schools to obtain military instruction, and had received either first or second class certificates he trusted therefore that the men of Napanee would retrieve their honor and show their loyalty by at once enrolling themselves as volunteers. Mr Wilson was loudly applauded at the close of his remarks. Mr. Thos. Flynn seconded the resolution in a lengthy and eloquent speech.

Dr. Bristol in a loyal and forcible speech moved the second resolution which was as follows:

Whereas, this meeting having deemed it advisable to raise one or more volunteer or militia companies, It is hereby resolved, That F. W. Campbell, Esq., and Geo. A. Fraser, Esq., who hold first class certificates from the Military Schools, be requested to raise two companies of volunteers, and to take all necessary steps towards having them accepted by the Government and furnished with arms and accoutrements.

It was seconded by J. T. Grange, Reeve of the town, who expressed himself willing to "turn out in defence of the country."

Carried unanimously.

Mr. Campbell thanked the meeting for the compliment they paid him in entrusting him with the discharge of so important a duty, which he said he would perform to the best of his ability. Mr. Fraser also thanked the meeting and said although nothing of a speaker, he trusted he would be able to do a little in the fighting line when the proper time came.

A couple of lists were then opened, when a rush was made for them, and a large number enrolled themselves as volunteers on each list.

The third resolution was then moved by S. S. Madden, Esq., and seconded by Mr. A. Fraser. It was as follows:

Whereas, in view of the more immediate danger that threatens our lives and property from ill - disposed persons that have come or may secretly come amongst us, and, whereas, the town being without any organized police force, this meeting deems it advisable to form a home guard, for the purpose of patrolling the streets at night, and guarding our homes and firesides should it become necessary for them to do so, such guard or a sufficient number of them to turn out in discharge of their duty whenever called upon by the chief magistrate of the town so to do.

John Stevenson, Esq, made a neat practical speech on the importance of adopting the steps that had been taken, and was followed on the same subject by several other speakers amongst others Mr. Kirby, an old veteran officer of 1812.

Vote of thanks to the chairman and three cheers for the Queen, when the meeting peaceably dispersed.

When March 17th passed quietly without any hostile demonstration, the general feeling was that the Fenians had been intimidated by the vigorous measures taken by the Canadian Government and the immediate reply of the volunteers. In his issue of March 22nd the editor comments of the promptness of the volunteers and on the necessity for an adequate system of defence.

CREDITABLE PROMPTNESS

"It is satisfactory to know that the sons of the heroic militia that so nobly came forward and defended our country in the war of 1812, and the rebellion of 1837, have not lost the same noble, patriotic spirit, and that if our land should again be invaded there are manly arms and brave hearts ready to defend it. It is encouraging to be informed that when the Government recently felt it advisable to make a call for ten thousand volunteers to protect our frontier, the whole number was supplied within half a day and in a few hours more the services of ten thousand more were tendered, but happily they were not required.

The Fenian leaders will find it far safer to make warlike speeches at home, and amuse their audiences by imaginary campaigns than to give the experiment a real test by invading our shores. So long as we are found so ready and willing to repel every invader there is but little danger to be apprehended from Fenian invasions."

OUR MILITIA

"The excitement in this Province in connection with the recent reports of Fenian invasion has caused the people to give more attention to our means of defence than we have done previously. During the whole period of the American civil war the British Government saw the apathy that existed in this country in reference to the state of our Militia, and used strong influences to rouse us to action, but as we did not appear to apprehend any immediate danger then it appeared almost impossible to induce us to shake off our apathy. If the present excitement is productive of no other good it will, at any rate, stimulate us to more decided action in this respect.

Up to the present time we have depended almost entirely upon the Volunteer system, aided by the "regulars" from England, for our defence. It must be now obvious that something more will be required than a mere dependence upon a few enterprising young men throughout the country that are willing to sacrifice their time and business in order to receive the proper training that is necessary to fit them to enter the ranks of an army. The country has a right to demand that every inhabitant of the land shall be prepared to go out and drive back any invading foe, but they cannot be thus prepared without proper training and instructions, such as but few are now receiving. We think it is high time that measures should be taken to see that every young man shall be properly enrolled and drilled. We are so closely connected with a powerful and warlike people that in case of any disruption every man's services will be required, and every man should be kept in readiness.

We have now in Canada between 8,000 and 10,000 regulars of the British army, and there are about twenty-six thousand volunteers armed and drilled—ten thousand of whom are now on duty. Besides these there are about eighty thousand men of the service Militia balloted for who must turn out whenever the Government think it necessary. But this letter class would scarcely prove of any advantage, in case of actual warfare, for want of proper training.

It is not at all creditable that in so large and wealthy a country as Lennox and Addington we cannot boast of a single company of volunteers, excepting the efficient troops under the command of Captain Sweatman of Adolphustown Other counties with far less interests at stake and far less inducements to make the necessary sacrifices have greatly out-stripped us in this important respect.—We trust that this stigma will not be allowed long to remain upon us. Napanee is about to have two companies organized, and we see no good reason why several other localities should not be equally as active in this important matter"

For the next few weeks opinions were divided whether the period of calm was only the lull before an impending storm or a sign that the Fenian danger was definitely past. Then came news of a change in the Fenian plan of campaign

FENIAN RUMORS (April 12)

"People are becoming tired of reading any more the rumors with which the Fenians are so fond of amusing the public, and a feeling of disgust is now provoked at the hollowness of their pretentions. Readers of the Standard will bear witness that from the beginning we have treated the thing as of little or no serious importance, and have given our convictions that of the dangers that have threatened us none was of a less serious character than the threatened invasion. By this time probably this conviction has become pretty general Those who have amused themselves in trying to keep the public well informed in regard to the projected movements of these men, have lately given us to understand that Canada

is likely to be left in quietness and other fields of conquest have been selected It is said that "distance lends enchantment to the view," and consequently a more distant field has been selected Some have hinted that British Columbia or Vancouver Island would constitute the basis of operations; others that it was the Bermuda Islands.

Last week the New York World and Herald gave forth the intelligence—so often before given—that a blow was at once to be struck But there was a sad dwindling down in regard to the magnitude of the first achievements Instead of vanquishing Canada in a single day as before, we are now informed that a little island off the coast of New Brunswick —containing about one-half as many acres and population as Amherst Island—is to be the point of attack The World goes on in the most ludicrous manner to give the details of the projected campaign O'Mahoney is not to lead in person, for since the days of the great Napoleon it has always been understood that the lives of great commanders are of too great value to be hazarded in a common engagement, so one of his Generals will perform the daring feat and when the victory is proclaimed, O'Mahoney is to pass over and be declared President, and set up his long predicted Republic His dominions are then to spread, and New Brunswick is to be absorbed The new empire is to receive the title of Emmetta, in honor of the noted Robert Emmett, whose name is so intimately connected with a former rebellion in Ireland, and who paid the penalty with his life Several of the other particulars, such as dividing the new country into three Provinces, and the General to be clad in a beautiful snuff colored coat, trimmed with green, we cannot afford space to give now We must not forbear to mention that one of the most important objects to be accomplished by the taking of this Island, is that as soon as possession is gained a new issue of the Fenian bonds will be thrown into market, and it is expected that with the prestige of having conqnered British territory, and bearding the lion in his own den, a couple of millions might be realized in these bonds."

The "little island off the coast of New Brunswick" that was to form the nucleus of the Fenian republic was the island of Campo Bello, in Passamaquoddy Bay. The Fenians were reported to be mustering at Eastport, Maine, and in its issue of April 19, under the ironic heading "First battle and its results" the Standard gives the details of a raid on the British customs house on Indian Island. The next issue reports the measures adopted both by the American and British governments to frustrate the Campo Bello scheme.

FENIANISM

"The papers are carefully examined every day to see whether the Fenians that have congregated along the coasts of Maine have yet made an attack on New Brunswick. Even many of those who never before supposed that they intended fight, began to think themselves mistaken, for the adage runs, where there is much smoke there must be some fire. The only fire that has yet occurred was the firing of a store house on the American side, supposed to be the work of the Fenians. The report now is that they are dispersing, and many of the poor dupes know not how to get to their homes again. It seems probable that the object of this demonstration was more to hasten the sale of bonds, by showing something like real work, than anything else.

The American government has taken more decisive measures for the suppression of the movement. Last week Gen. Meade was sent to their rendezvous with a company of 160 soldiers to keep an eye on their movements. One or two vessels loaded with their arms have also been detained by the government officials, and war ships have been ordered to that vicinity. The New York Times is bitter against them, and asserts that so far, the war they have waged has been against the United States and not Britain, and demands their suppresion. Probably the Americans will see yet more trouble with them.

The British have not been inactive in the meantime. Both soldiers and war ships have been sent to the defense of New Brunswick, and things are in a state of readiness to give them a warm reception

whenever they may find it convenient to honour our fellow colonists with a visit."

The same day on which the above article was published, New York papers, quoted in the next issue of the Standard, were reporting the abandonment of the New Brunswick scheme and the return of the Fenians to New York. On May 10, the editor comments on the trouble this fiasco has caused in the ranks of the Fenians, and urges the necessity for further watchfulness. It is interesting to note too, the effect the Fenian danger had in hastening the confederation of the provinces.

FENIANISM AGAIN

"All the vials of wrath have now poured on the head of poor O'Mahoney. It is said that on returning to New York a deputation from the Eastport terribles waited on him and at once demanded an explanation for the failure of the expedition. It had been promised that transports and iron clads were to meet them at the coast of Maine and convey them to Ireland. O'Mahoney tried to lay the blame on Kilhan and denounced him as a traitor to the cause. The deputation then demanded remuneration for the time and expenses of the expedition, and enforced the payment by locking up O'Mahoney's mansion and presenting revolvers to his head, which of course brought him to terms and thirty dollars per head was paid them. The Head Centre was then brought before a Council of the Brotherhood and explanations again demanded. Not being able to give a satisfactory account of his stewardship he was at once deposed from power, and a committee placed in guard of the papers and valuables of the establishment. It is said that over $300 have been paid in to O'Mahoney during the past six months but not one dollar was to be found in the safe. Of course the brotherhood will not see the money again.

One would imagine that after so many failures, and so many exposures of dishonesty, the deluded dupes would lose faith in the whole movement. Instead of this it is said that hundreds are now rushing to the standard of Roberts and Sweeney, and clamouring to be led into trouble. They are "spoiling

for a fight," and nothing else can satisfy them. It will be necessary for these leaders to do something at once or they too will be deposed from power. If anything can or will be done it may therefore soon be expected It is known that the chosen ground of this party has always been Canada. We will therefore feel it necessary to be well prepared for them for sometime yet to come.

Up till this date the Fenians cannot be much flattered with the result of their efforts. In consequence of the excitement in Ireland the Hebeus Corpus Act was suspended, and according to the Dublin correspondent of the New York News — a Fenian authority, the result has been that more Irish have left the country than can be replaced by the most magnificent "army of invasion" that has yet been promised, so that the case is worse than ever In America the demonstrations against the British Provinces has done more to hasten Confederation than anything else, and this but tends to strengthen and consolidate British power. All the trouble there has yet been has been in their own ranks, and with the United States Government There is an old adage "give the Devil rope enough and he will hang himself."

The dissension in Fenian circles attendant on the failure of the Campo Bello campaign brought the organizer, James Stephens, to New York from Ireland. As soon as Stephens assumed control there was an ominous lull Greater secrecy was imposed on the garrulous brethren, but it was generally believed that Stephens' own plan was to set up their republic in Ireland rather than to attack Canada first, and for the next few weeks he allowed the report to be circulated that his only mission in America was to collect funds to be sent to Ireland, and that the invasion of Canada was abandoned.

Suddenly, on the first of June the blow was struck. The Standard, in its issue of June 7th, does not give a connected account of the engagements, but prints the series of despatches as they were received from various points from June 1st to June 5th. From this information one can give only the first impression of the raids which a contemporary reader would have gained, rather than an authentic account. It is amusing to note, by the way,

the staid manner in which the engagements are reported, when one considers the hysteria to which an invasion of the country would move a newspaper of 1928. There are no headlines across the sheet. Indeed, no mention of Fenians is allowed to mar the deep peace which broods over the front page. Of its eight columns, the first three are, as usual, devoted to small advertisements and business directory: next come a few stanzas of "select poetry" and a story of the highly sentimental type in vogue at the period, with a few moral maxims of Epictetus for padding. It is only on turning over the leaf that we learn that the enemy has been active in our midst.

It appears that on May 31st about 1300 Fenians crossed at Niagara and advanced to Frenchman's Creek. The Canadian volunteers moved from Port Colborne to Ridgeway by tram, and finding the Fenians encamped in the woods, engaged them, the Queen's Own firing the first shot. Several were killed on both sides and the Fenians were driven back, but later the Queen's Own retired for want of support. Whether Colonel Booker, who was in command of the supporting troops, deliberately fled or fell back mistaking the cheers of the Queen's Own for shouts of victorious Fenians, he was so severely criticized that he soon resigned his command. Colonel Peacock with a body of regulars moved by water from Chippawa against the Fenians at Fort Erie. Many Fenians retreated across the river, but on the approach of Col. Peacock's force, 700 were taken prisoners, and handed over to the custody of the American armed steamer, Michigan, under Commander Bryson. When the volunteers and regulars took up their position along the river opposite Buffalo, the danger of a Fenian raid from that point was over. The troops mentioned as taking part in the engagement, were the Queen's Own, the 13th Hamilton battalion, the 16th and 47th regiments, the Welland and Grey batteries.

Meanwhile it was reported from Ogdensburg that Fenians were concentrating at Malone, N.Y. to attack the canal at Cornwall. The 15th Battalion from Belleville and the 16th from Picton received orders on the 2nd of June to proceed at once to Prescott. Two days later the volunteers which this county could muster were summoned;

MOVEMENTS OF TROOPS

"On Sunday afternoon an order was sent up from Kingston for Captain Sweatman's company of Cavalry to report themselves at that place immediately, and although they were scattered over a large tract of country yet in about three hours they had nearly all assembled at Bath, from whence they moved on in a body to Kingston. The following named gentlemen of this town have gone with the company, —B. C. Davy, Mayor, M. P. Rohlin, Registrar, C. B. Perry, Edwin Green, and Dr Bristol "

Apparently the volunteer companies begun at the public meeting of March 15 had never materialized, as the editor feels it necessary to explain the dearth of volunteers from Napanee

EXPLANATORY

"As many complaints are made in regard to Napanee, that while every other town and village is sending Volunteers into the field to defend our country, not a single company is here, even to defend our own homes, we may say by way of apology that the blame is partly due to the government When the Volunteers throughout the country were called out some months ago two Companies of volunteers enrolled their names here and tendered their services to the Government, but an answer was received informing them that their services were not then required, but intimating that arms would be forwarded them in time so that they might drill for future purposes,—Since then there has nothing been heard from the Government in regard to the matter This week, telegrams have been sent again offering their services, but an answer has been sent thanking them and saying that their services will not be required We hope, however, that our Representative will use his influence to have arms and clothing sent to them at once, so that we may be no longer without Volunteer companies."

But steps had already been taken to remove the reproach. On Saturday, June 3, a public meeting was held to form a home guard, and reorganize the volunteer companies.

PUBLIC MEETING

"After it became known that our country had been invaded, and that our own homes were exposed, it was thought advisable to hold a public meeting of the citizens of Napanee, to devise some means for our own protection. Accordingly quite late on Saturday afternoon a proclamation was issued calling a meeting that evening, in the Town Hall, for the purpose, and notwithstanding the short notice the Hall was completely crowded. Never have we seen more assembled in the Hall.

In the absence of the Mayor, the chair was occupied by J. T. Grange, Esq., Reeve, who briefly explained the object of the meeting. John Stevenson, Esq., was called upon and moved a resolution expressive of our feelings in reference to the wanton invasion of our land by an enemy, to whom we had never given the least provocation, and the necessity of prompt measures on our part to provide for our own defence. Judge Burrowe briefly seconded the resolution.

Bishop Richardson, of the M. E. Church was then called upon and was received with great cheers. This venerable gentleman lost one arm in the defence of our Country in the war of 1812, and gave some interesting particulars in regard to that struggle. We regret that space will not allow us to furnish a lengthy report of his interesting speech.

T. W. Casey, Esq., moved the second resolution, in regard to the enrolment of a Home Guard. He said while it was necessary for us to provide men to send to the battle-field, and oppose foes without, it was also our duty to see to it that no mischief should be done by traitors within. Unless our streets were nightly patrolled, it would be an easy matter for even four or five evil disposed ones to do us incalculable injury by applying the torch of the incendiary to our own homes. It would therefore be necessary for us at once to arrange to have our streets nightly patrolled, lest advantage should be taken of the present excitement. Dr. Ruttan seconded the resolution in a few well-timed remarks.

A large number at once enrolled themselves as

a Home Guard, and several more as volunteers, if their services would be accepted."

There continued to be rumors of threatened attacks at Prescott, Kingston, and St. Johns in Quebec, but none materialized. The rather large force at Malone was made to disband through the vigorous action of the American Major-General, Meade. This the editor points out in his issue of June 14, but at the same time can not refrain from a thrust at the American government for having allowed the Fenian organization to be developed so far.

FENIANISM COLLAPSED

"Perhaps few of our readers will be much surprised at the ignoble end of the Great Fenian campaign—that was to have taken possession of Canada and then liberated Ireland from Britain's iron grasp. We could never make ourselves believe that these agitators ever seriously entertained the idea that either Canada or Ireland would ever fall into the their hands, and there are many others who are firmly of the opinion that a desire for plunder was the true secret of their operations.

The little sympathy they received from any portion of our inhabitants and the prompt manner in which they were repulsed had most to do with the failure of the movement, though it must be admitted that the decided action of the American Government in seizing their arms and arresting their leaders had much to do with the speedy termination of the expedition.

We trust that the trouble and vast expense of which the United States Government has found it necessary to make to quell this movement which it so quietly allowed to grow up unmolested in its own territory will teach it a salutary lesson. Had it been nipped in the very bud, as it might easily have been, all this trouble would have been prevented in both countries. As it is, the United States were put to a greater expense and trouble than even we have been, and with them the difficulty is not yet at an end. No government should for a single day tolerate a movement as wicked in its conception and so diabolical in its design as the wanton invasion of a peaceful and

friendly people, and it cannot he expected that the connivance at such an outrage will be allowed to pass unpunished."

In epite of his hrave words of explanation in the previoue lssue, the editor felt keenly the poor showing made hy the county when the call came for volunteers.

OURSELVES AND OUR NEIGHBORS

"From our neighhoring Counties of Hastings and Prince Edward, over eight hundred volunteers left their homes to defend our frontier, within forty-eight houra of the time their services were demanded, from this County, fifty all told. At Belleville, we are informed, every school has been closed in consequence of the teachers heing away on duty, and many places of husiness are nearly closed because so many connected with them are ahsent. Both Editors are gone; in the Chronicle office none hut the "devil" is left. Of the remaining cltizens a large numher have heen enrolled, and thoroughly armed as a Home Guard, and are constantly on the alert.

From Prince Edward, not only has the County Town furnished a large numher of volunteers, l ut there are many from nearly every townahip in the county. Wo are glad to see that the authorities are taking good care to provide for the famllies of those who are thus ahsent on duty. At Picton a committee was at once appolnted to attend to the wants of families whose support had heen called away, and a epecial meeting of the County Council has been held and funds voted from the general treasury for the eame laudable purpose. Mounted Piquets have been estahlished along nearly the whole lakeside coast of the County, where any danger might he apprehended from a landing of the invaders. It has also heen proposed to form a Home Guard in each Township in the County and meetings for that purpose have heen held in eome localltles.

When we compare the activity of our neighbors to provide for the defence of our country in the present emergency, with our own inactivity, who does not blush at the unenviable position we now occupy. Beyond the excellent company of troops,

headed by Captain Sweetman of Adolphustown, Lennox and Addington has not furnished any companies whatever. Had our own officials displayed the same spirit and sacrifice as those of Prince Edward we doubt not but that our position now would have been equally proud, for no one will say that the young men of this County are deficient in activity and courage, where the country demands their services. We are glad to say, however, that prompt steps are now being taken to place ourselves on a better footing. At Bath a company, with W. F. Peterson, Esq., as Captain, has been raised and are to be armed at once. At Tamworth there are now two companies, and at Napanee Captains Campbell and Geo. Fraser respectively are drilling their recently organized companies, and are expecting arms to be furnished them in a few days.

We trust that the good work will not stop here. There is no good reason why there should not be an excellent company in every township in this County. To ensure our safety we must be in a position to inform our enemies that we are at any moment prepared to receive them. We sincerely hope and trust that another week will not elapse without efforts being made to organize companies in several of the large and respectable townships of which we have not yet been able to hear in connection with the volunteer movement. Let the men of South Fredericksburgh, of Richmond, of Ernesttown, and of Camden, give us to understand that they are not behind their neighbors in this important enterprise."

It happened that four men from the county, students at the University of Toronto, had taken part in the engagement at Ridgeway as members of the Queen's Own. The following extract from the report of the County Council meeting of June 29th shows that the county was not unappreciative of their services.

"Moved by Mr. Ham, seconded by Mr. Paul, That, as several of the young men of this county, while attending the University at Toronto, and belonging to the Queen's Own volunteers, were called upon to do duty on the Niagara Frontier during the late invasion by Fenians, having nobly responded to

tha call, and servad during the engagement at Ridgeway, this Council do, as a slight token of tha appreciation which the people of this County hava of their devotion to their country, present each of such volnnteers viz, Messrs. Smythe, Carey, Derocha and Nichols, with tha sum of Twenty dollars, and tha same ba paid over to order of the respectiva Reeves of the Municipalities in which tha said voluntaers resida, to he presented to them on behalf of this corporation Carried"

Meanwhile there were intermittent ramors of ather attempts hy the Fenians, and tha newly organizad volunteers of Napanea were hard at work, determinad to wipe out tha former reproach of unpraparedness

VOLUNTEER INSPECTION (July 26)

"On Thursday evening of last week Brigade-Major Shaw visited this town for tha purposa of inspecting the Artillery Company hara Although tha officers of tha company were not aware of the intended inspaction till the usual hour for drill, yet a full company was mustered Tha men were put through tha various military evolutions in which they had baan instructed, and moved with a ragularity that was very creditahle, considering tha short period they have been under drill The Brigade-Major, after passing through tha ranks, addressed the company at considerabla langth. He expressed himself highly pleased with their appearance, and said ha would hava much plaasura in reporting favorahly of them to the Adjutant-General Ha referred to the unenviable notorlaty which Napanea had gained during the late Fenian excitement, both at the Adjutant-General's office and thro'-out tha district, and hoped that our reputation would ha retrieved hy displaying more of a patriotic and military spirit in the futura"

Although many of the seven hundrad Fenians captured at Fort Erie had escaped, thara still remained in Canada ahout two hundred prisoners, a sufficiant numhar to prove a source of embarrassment to the government as to their trial.

FENIAN TRIALS (June 21)

"It does not appear that our Government have yet been able to arrive at a decision in regard to the Fenian prisoners now in our hands. According to the provisions of our Statutes they may either be tried by Military Commission or in our Civil Courts, but it has not yet been announced which will be resorted to; it is probable the latter, however.—It will doubtless be an exceedingly difficult matter to do much with them in our civil courts. A foreign citizan, found with arms in his hands, invading the country in time of peace, and trying to plunder, is liable to the death panalty. But scarcely any of these were found with arms in their hands, and nearly all of them assert that they were merely spectators who had no part in the invasion. Several have proved that they were such, and it will be a difficult matter to show, by direct evidence, such as a Court would require before inflicting capital punishment, that any of them were personally engaged in the battle. It will be remembered that no prisoners were taken at Fort Erie on the battle field or even under arms, and under such circumstances it would be difficult to prove their guilt, unless they turn evidence against each other.

The Attorney General has announced that they shall be treated as brigands and marauders, but even if their guilt could be clearly established, it would be too much like butchery to put to death nearly two hundred prisoners, many of whom are mere boys and dupes of designing ones. The principal officers, if we but had them, could well be made an example of, but they took good care to secure their escape.

It does not appear that the Canadian Government has made any demand for the prisoners taken by the American authorities near Fort Erie. As there must be good evidence furnished here of the guilt of each individual before he can be claimed under the Extradition treaty it is at once evident that it would be no easy task to claim them, and even if in our hands it would be a question what way to dispose of them. We regret that some efforts are not made to procure O'Neil. As the leader of the

party it would not be so difficult to prove his guilt and his punishment would not be such a questionable matter.

The American government has undertaken the trial of "President" Roberts and after two days investigation it has been abandoned. Certainly in this case their Courts present a pitiable spectale. It was announced by the prosecuting Attorney that in consequence of the intimidations and threats of violence to those that might be witnesses against him they could not safely be brought into court. Witnesses whose evidence went to substantiate any of the charges preferred would be openly hissed by the spectators, and loud cheers given when anything was brought out favourable to the prisoner. In Canada, where the order and dignity of our courts have always been maintained, these facts appear strange enough. Certainly the admirers of democratic institutions among us must see, from time to time enough defects in the American system to convince them of the superiority of our own."

Since it had been decided to give the prisoners a civil rather than a military trial, they were kept in custody during the summer and brought up before the judge at the fall assizes in October.

FENIAN PRISONERS (Oct. 25)

"The Court at Toronto is engaged in the trial of the Fenian prisoners now in custody at that city. The evidence for the prosecution has been laid before the Grand Jury, and a true bill has been found against several, others have not yet been brought into court, but all will be as fast as the business can be proceeded with. It is understood that the trial will be continued until all are disposed of. Over two hundred witnesses are now in Toronto, summoned to attend these trials. The great difficulty is to identify the men, as being of the number in the Fenian ranks, as none of them were found under arms at the time of their apprehension.

The American Consul attends the court daily to observe the progress of the trial on behalf of the prisoners, and those that claim to be American cit-

izens will be supplied with money to enable them to defray the expenses of their defense."

Many of the prisoners were acquitted through lack of evidence, but at Toronto two were convicted and condemned to death, a Col. James Lynch (in Dec. 13th issue called Robert B. Lynch) who had claimed that he was the reporter for a Louisville paper and not a combatant, and Rev. John McMahon. The intervention of the American Secretary of State, which moved the editor of the Standard to such indignation, was so far effective that it secured a three months' respite for the condemned, Lynch, McMahon, and five others, Wm. Slaven, Wm. Hayden, Daniel Whalen, J. Quinn, and Thomas School, whose execution had been set for the same date.

SENTENCE OF THE FENIAN PRISONERS (Nov. 1)

"Justice" says the old adage ' has a leaden foot but an iron hand" slow to move but terrible to strike. So it has proved in the case of our Fenian Prisoners, against whom sentence has been pronounced

The many months that have been allowed to transpire between the apprehension and trial of these men caused a universal murmur at the tardiness of our government, but now that some have been held there is regret that there is so much severity in the prescribed punishment. It is not however probable that, if the others are found guilty, their punishment will be as great as in the case of Col. Lynch, and the Rev. McMahon. The majority of the others are young—mere boys,, and of but little intelligence, it would therefore be an injustice to deal as severely with them.

Great efforts are being made to procure the pardon of these condemned men, particularly on the part of the United States. Public meetings of the Fenians are being held and speeches of the most inflamatory character indulged in, of what Canadians may expect in case these sentences are carried into effect. Resolutions are also adopted calling upon the President to use his influence to procure their release. So far as the effect of these speeches may go they will be of but questionable advantage to those for whom the pretended sympathy was extended. It

is well known that Britons, wherever you may find them, are not easily intimidated into submission, even by those who may have the power to carry their threats into execution, but Fenian threats have become so familiar during the past year or two, to us, that they pass for merely empty words.

The fact that the Washington Government has acted so promptly in endeavouring to procure their release will do but little in their favour. Had the same government been as prompt in its efforts to suppress the movement in the very outset these men would never have troubled us at all. No reason can be advanced why leniency should be extended to these men; there is no palliation for their crime. Had it been the scheme of some thoughtless young men, attempted at the impulse of the moment, and heartily regretted immediately after, it would be then quite pardonable. But it was premeditated, to the full knowledge of the Washington Government, for months previous to its execution, and even since we have been unmistakably informed that nothing but their much regretted want of ability prevents these same hordes from overrunning and subjugating us, depriving us of our much valued liberty. And yet this is the very class of men that Secretary Seward and President Johnson would fain have us treat with unusual forbearance! Their own conduct towards the invaders is anything but creditable. The man who assaults a loafer is straightly fined for the offence, but the men who invaded Canada, shot down six of our brave men, plundered and pillaged as much as they could, are let go without even the form of a trial, as an offence too trivial to be noticed. Save us from our friends, if these are to be considered as such"

While the subject of the Fenian raids loomed so large that it seemed best to treat it as a separate topic, there were other questions of interest discussed through the same number of the Standard. In the issue of Jan. 26th the editor comments very wisely on the reciprocity treaty, which had been in force since 1854 but was abrogated by the United States this same year, 1866.

RECIPROCITY TREATY

"Messrs Galt and Howland are now at Washington using their best endeavours to secure a continuance of the present Reciprocity Treaty, or to negotiate for another. So far as we can learn their mission does not promise to be very successful. The American Government appear determined either to annul the Treaty altogether or exact from us conditions neither just nor politic.

We regret sometimes that our Government has displayed so much anxiety in regard to this Treaty. These numerous missions to Washington, and the many other attempts that have been made to secure its continuance all go to confirm our neighbours in the belief that we look upon the Treaty as all-important to our commercial existence, and would be willing to make almost any sacrifice sooner than forego its advantages. Every effort made emboldens them to demand greater concessions on our part and to act imperatively in the matter.

The Treaty has been of advantage to the United States as well as Canada, and it is high time they were unmistakably informed we can prosper without its provisions. Many further concessions on our part would be purchasing its advantages at entirely too dear a rate, and if they will not be satisfied with what is just and fair we might as well give up the beggarly attempt first at last."

It might be interesting to note how the editor's view is borne out by a modern historian. "It was a mutual benefit, but through some mistaken view, or narrow trade policy, the United States refused to continue the treaty after the year 1866. Its cessation created a considerable derangement of trade between the two countries, but the compulsory development of many branches of home industry by Canada has given a self dependence and energy to Canadians." (A Short History of the Canadian People, by George Bryce.)

The question of confederation was no longer a vital issue in Canada West, as our province was then called, but the interest was centred in the Maritime provinces, where the advocates of confederation were labouring to have the scheme adopted by their respective govern-

ments. It will be noted that it was believed that Newfoundland would form one of the provinces of the new Canada.

> "There appears to be good evidence that the Eastern Provinces are inclined to reconsider their rejection of the Confederation scheme. New Brunswick, we are informed, is about to intimate its acceptance, and a coalition Ministry is promised, having this as the specific object of its formation. In Newfoundland both branches of the legislature have accepted the plan decided upon at Quebec. Let Nova Scotia follow the example, and our projected "new nationality" will soon be realised." (Mar. 8)

The abrogation of the reciprocity treaty revived the disputes over the fisheries along the Atlantic seaboard, which were to be settled five years later by the treaty of Washington.

THE FISHERIES

> "From a private letter recently received from Ottawa, we are informed that at the seat of Government more trouble is apprehended from the position of the Fishery question than from all the blather and threats of the Fenians. One of the most prolific sources of dispute between the British Government and that of the United States for many years, has been in regard to the rights of fishing in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, the Bay of Fundy, and other points on the coast of the Maritime Provinces. It is known that some of the most valuable fisheries in the world for mackerel and cod are along the shores above mentioned, and the profits connected with them have been earnestly coveted by our American neighbors.
>
> By the law of nations each country is allowed to have exclusive jurisdiction over those waters lying within three miles from its own land, and in reference to this point there has been but little grounds of dispute when the American fishermen were excluded from these limits, but the great source of difficulty has been in regard to the inlets and bays where the headlands have not been over three miles apart. These the British Government has claimed as part of its territory, and this claim has been re-

sisted by our neighbors, who have contended on the other hand that so long as they were not fishing within three miles of the coast they had a right to do so, even though they were compelled to pass thro' British waters to reach these grounds.

This question has been dealt with by several treaties between the two governments, but no satisfactory understanding has been arrived at in reference to the inlets and bays, and on several occasions collisions were imminent in consequence

According to the provisions of the Reciprocity Treaty, American citizens were granted the privilege of fishing in these Provincial waters, and consequently the troubles in regard to the fishery question have ceased to exist during the past eleven years. The abrogation of the Treaty has again opened up the question, and now that these privileges have been so long enjoyed, the contention will probably become keener than before. With such a valuable source of wealth before their eyes, the Americans are very reluctant to let the opportunity slip, and we doubt not that every means will be used to evade the restrictions placed upon them. Our Government appear determined, however, to see that our rights are not encroached upon, and some weeks ago a proclamation was issued warning all foreigners not to infringe on our territories for fishing purposes, and it is intended during the season to keep vessels along the coast with power and instructions to keep off invaders

Not to be outdone in this manner, the United States have ordered some war vessels and a monitor to the same waters to see to it that their citizens shall be fully protected. What the result of these demonstrations and counter demonstrations may be it is difficult to tell, but it is easily seen that with so many questions of dispute as will doubtless arise, and with armed vessels on either side, ready to resent any grievance, real or imaginary, and with a hostile feeling already in existence between the two parties, it will be an easy matter to drift into difficulties that may lead to serious results There are not a few among the Americans that would gladly see hostilities between the two countries, and it will re-

quire prudence and skill on the part of the better classes of the community to avert such a calamity.

At this time the United States were passing through a very trying period of reconstruction. Some of the perplexing questions were the restitution of the political privileges of the Southern States, the treatment of the freed slaves, the trial of the rebel leaders. The editor gives a summary of some of the difficulties in an editorial of April 19th.

AFFAIRS AT WASHINGTON

"The position of affairs in the United States is becoming still more critical,—Peace has been declared, but harmony does not yet prevail. At present hostilities are confined to a war of words. The difficulties between President Johnson and the House of Representatives and the Senate are of such a character that it is not easily seen upon what terms a compromise can be effected between them. President Johnson's policy appears to be to allow the South to enter at once into all their former privilages and liberties, giving full permission for the regulation of all state laws and institutions. The Legislature, on the other hand, appear determined to treat the rebels as a vanquished people, and to lay down pretty strict regulations for their future guidance, refusing to allow them their former privileges until these are asserted to and complied with.

As might be expected, the negro is the great source of all the difficulty.—The Legislature claims that his position shall be clearly defined by the Federal Government, while the President insists upon it that each state must be allowed to deal with him as it may deem best. To define his position two acts were passed by the Legislature, known respectively as the Freedman's Bureau, and the Civil Rights bills. Both these were rejected by the President, but the latter has become the law of the land, in spite of his veto, by virtue of its having received the assent of two thirds of the Legislators.

The President has just issued a Proclamation declaring the war at an end, and that consequently the States lately in rebellion are now entitled to all their former privilages again. This the Legislature

denies by refusing to allow the representatives from those states seats in their body. How this difficulty is to be determined time will soon show.

These differences of feeling and policy have brought about much personal animosity. President Johnson on his part has, in a public speech, declared his opponents to be traitors as great as those just vanquished on the battle field, and leaves the impression that he would gladly have them treated as such. His friends are hinting in plain terms that it is high time that, Cromwell like, he should send them away about their business, and take the full reins of power in his own hands. The leading Republicans declare on the other hand that the President should be impeached and deposed from power. Of course there is a middle class between these two extremes that would gladly reconcile these difficulties if they could, but it is doubtful whether their wise councils will prevail.

There are strong arguments to be used by each party in support of the views respectively held. The Democrats urge that these States cannot longer be kept out of the Union without violence to the constitution. From the beginning the Federal government desired that any State could leave the Union, and this point having been conceded it is contrary to the constitution to withhold from them any of the privileges which the Union confers, and that if they are now kept out by the action of the Federal Government, they may remain out by their own act. The Republicans reply that war was declared and waged in consequence of slavery, and until it is thoroughly eradicated, and that with the consent of the conquered, peace cannot be fully proclaimed again.

The Proclamation just issued will have the tendency to establish the United States courts again in each of the States, and we may therefore expect that Jefferson Davis, Clay, and others who have long been kept in prison, charged with high treason, will receive their trials, or be set at liberty. Certainly it is high time that something should be done with them. It is not just to them or to the people that they should be longer kept. If they are guilty,

punishment should be as prompt as possible, if innocent they are entitled to liberty."

One of the most important achievements of the year was the laying of the Atlantic cable The editor very rightly applauds as one of the wonders of the age a convenience to which we have grown so accustomed that we take it quite for granted Before this the European news in the Standard was always headed "arrival of the City of Paris" or whatever might be the name of the ship that brought the despatches Now there is a proud heading in very heavy type "By Atlantic Cable."

ATLANTIC TELEGRAPH (Aug. 16)

"The Atlantic telegraph cable is now in beautiful working order and messages are being daily transmitted. The cable between Newfoundland and the main coast, which has been for some time out of order, has been repaired, so that despatches between England and America are subject to no delay.

As an evidence of the rapidity with which news is now transmitted we may state that on Tuesday news that was published in the Paris Moniteur in the morning was sent to London, and thence by Atlantic cable, and republished in our Canada papers the same afternoon!—Truly this is an age of wonders.

The Great Eastern is now coaling and preparing for her voyage to pick up the lost end of the last years' cable so as to complete its laying, and will go to sea in a day or two."

An attempt had been made the year before to lay the cable, but it had to be abandoned when the cable broke in mid ocean The finding and splicing the ends of the cable was successfully accomplished in 1866, after the second cable was in operation.

THE LOST CABLE (Sept. 8)

"To us it appears that the fact of the broken and lost cable of last year being again recovered, and likely to be successfully complete, is a far greater marvel of science than anything else that has occurred during the nineteenth century Had it been successfully laid without misfortune a year ago

It would have been one of the wonders of the age, but greater still is the achievement of completing it under the extremely unfavourable circumstances that had to be contended with

That a small wire, of but few inches in diameter lost in midocean, thousands of miles from shore, or any land mark, without anything to indicate the spot where it lay and with no means of ascertaining but from observations taken from the stars of heaven, should be gone to, months after it was lost, and successfully picked up, from near two miles under the surface, speaks volumes for the progress of human science We wonder, taking it all together, whether the world has yet witnessed such a triumph of human skill as the successful working of the Atlantic Telegraph Cable of 1865."

Those Maritime provinces that had been induced to reconsider their first rejection of the confederation plan had already sent delegates to England In the Standard of October 11, we learn that representatives from Canada too were on their way to lay the proposal before the British Parliament.

DELEGATION TO ENGLAND

"At last we are informed that our Government has arranged to send delegates to England, to confer with the Imperial Government, and with the delegates from the Eastern Province in regard to the details of the Confederation scheme As the other delegates have been there for a couple of months we have many times wondered why ours were not sent before this time, but there may be sufficient reasons that we know not of—Messrs McDonald and McDougall are to represent Upper Canada, and Cartier and Langevin the Eastern Province. It is understood that as soon as they arrive in England they will at once apply themselves to the task of arriving at a satisfactory arrangement in regard to the Confederation matter, and in case success crowns their efforts, a measure will be introduced into British Parliament, in January, to confirm and consummate the whole scheme In that case our own Parliament will not be convened again, and we may expect to be called upon before many months to el-

ect representatives for both the Confederate and the Local Legislatures As Lennox and Addington are now divided into two constituencies, and as each county will have two posts to fill, some new men will be required for the purpose, and it would be wisdom on the part of our people to be looking about them for some good men and true to fill these important situations."

When we turn to the consideration of domestic affairs, we find that the editor shows just as shrewd judgment. The picture he draws of the thoroughfares of Napanee in his time is more interesting than attractive, and it is strange to note the keen dread of the cholera, a disease almost unknown in Canada now, thanks to the progress made along the very lines advocated by the editor.

THE CHOLERA (Mar. 8)

"We observe by our exchanges that in almost every city and town in the Province the inhabitants are making arrangements to do what they can, to make preparations to mitigate as far as possible the ravages of the cholera, should it visit our shores during the coming summer. It has existed during the last year in almost every European country, and already some cases have been reported on this continent, and it is not therefore probable we shall be able to escape its visit during the present season. Having such a timely forewarning we have plenty of opportunity to take every precaution against it and thereby save ourselves from much of its fatality We do not intend just now to throw out any suggestions in regard to what means should be resorted to, but merely wish to call the attention of our authorities to the subject. The spring is now upon us, and warm weather will soon set in, and it is high time that the "Town Fathers" of Napanee should begin in earnest to see that every effort will be made to spare the lives and health of our citizens Every kind of filth should be removed from our lanes and by-places, and yards and cellars should be thoroughly cleansed. It is high time too that a word should be said about the pig-styes, slaughter-houses, and such like places, from which fevers and other dis-

eases are generally spread. While our pen is running we would beg leave to suggest that some little efforts should be made this year in regard to the annoyances that almost every inhabitant has heretofore felt from the unrestricted liberty granted to the hordes of hogs, geese, cows and dogs that have been permitted to roam about our streets, and commit every kind of annoying depradations that their inclinations may suggest. A people so highly taxed as ourselves for municipal purposes ought to derive some further benefits from our municipal government."

OUR STREETS (Aug 2.)

"Many, and we think, well founded complaints are made against our town Council for the filthy manner in which our streets are allowed to remain In no town of the same pretentions in any part of the province have we seen the principal streets in such a disorderly condition as those of Napanee At this the most sickly season of the year, when every precaution should be taken not to allow any filth to accumulate, the sides of our streets in many places are puddles of water and mud, and this just in front of the doors of some of the principal places of business, only to dry up by the natural course of evaporation

We wonder, too, that our principal street should be used as a general depository for the offal and sweepings of every shop whose occupant has not tidiness enough about him to otherwise dispose of his rubbish No where else hardly will one see the fronts of the shops of the principal street made a depository for packing boxes, salt barrels, stench producing hides, bushes, and whatever else it may be convenient to throw in it. We wonder that shop owners themselves have not more taste, but lacking this, it is the duty of our Council to instruct its officers to see to it that some respect shall be paid to the ordinary rules of decency and cleanliness.

We have felt reluctant to speak in regard to this matter, hoping that some time our officials would take it in hand, but being urged so frequently to it, we call their attention to a fact which appears to

have entirely escaped their notice, and sincerely hope that all further cause of complaint will be speedily removed.

The reprehensible practice of allowing all kinds of wares, especially edge tools, to be hung over the side walks or in exposed places should also be prevented.—The sword of Damocles was but little more dangerous than some of these man traps that we might mention. The writer speaks of these from his own experience. One day last week two scythes suspended on a nail just over the side walk fell on his devoted head, and the good fortune of one falling back downwards, across his neck, saved him a severe gash, and the owner a heavy bill of costs."

When the County Council refused to help in the erection of a drill shed for the new volunteer companies, the editor vigorously denounced the short-sightedness of their action. Could he have foreseen it, his counsel was not to prevail until 1914.

A DRILL-SHED (Sept. 20)

"It will be seen by our published report of the proceedings of the County Council that the application made for a grant to assist in erecting a Drill-shed here has been rejected—only five members voting in its favour. We regret that such a decision has been made, and we think that a majority of the tax-payers of the county will join us in this regret.

If the events of the last year have taught us any thing they have demonstrated the imperative necessity there exists in making every endeavour to develope our own sources of defence, by giving every encouragement to our Volunteer Companies to become thoroughly drilled and disciplined, so that when their services may be required they will be ready for the emergency. Throughout the whole country Lennox and Addington obtained an unenviable notoriety, in June last, for its apparent apathy in regard to the protection of our homes and our country, and we fear that, unless our county officials manifest more liberality than they have yet shown, we will be but little better prepared when the necessity again arises; for it must be evident to

every one that without a good Drill-shed the volunteers drill here must soon be virtually at an end for months to come.

There are now a number of companies in this vicinity, and to their credit it can be said that they have made no small sacrifice to endeavour to prepare themselves for efficiency by a thorough drill. Young men are now in the habit of coming regularly several miles here to drill, after having laboured hard during the day, and it is well known that during the long winter evenings there will be much more time and leisure for this desirable purpose, but drilling will be impossible without suitable shelter from the severity and inclemency of the weather. It is well known that there is not now any building in the county suitable for a battalion drill and unless such is provided the sacrifice, labour, and expense already incurred will be almost entirely lost, and those who have come nobly forward and volunteered will be discouraged at the apathy manifested.

Recognizing the necessity there is in every locality for Drill-sheds, the government has made provision to assist in their erection, by doubling the amount of money raised by the local authorities for that purpose. Our Town Council voted the sum of $500 to assist in such an erection here, and Mr. Cartwright, with his accustomed liberality, offered an eligible lot of land, gratuitously, for the site, and it was thought that, as the object was not a mere local one, the County Council would have no hesitation in granting a small sum necessary to secure for us a permanent building. That body must either have decided that the object was not worthy of their assistance, or that this municipality ought to incur the whole expense. In either case we must dissent from their conclusion. It is useless to argue that a Drill shed is not a necessity if our Volunteers are worth the keeping at all, for that is well known; neither is it just to place the whole burden upon Napanee, for the object is not one of mere local importance. The building is designed for the whole County, as it would be unreasonable to expect one in every locality where a company has been formed.

Its great necessity is to drill the companies together as a Battalion, and this would include not those of this municipality alone.

If the County Council has thought the tax-payers would not cheerfully bear the small additional amount of taxation that such a grant would involve, we question whether it has an adequate idea of the people's liberality. Who is there that would object to an outlay of a few shillings— for this is all that it would amount to on each individual—for the patriotic purpose of assisting to defend our noble Province against the invasion of its enemies? We trust that this matter will yet be reconsidered, and that a more liberal spirit will be shown next time."

It would be difficult to find a more fitting conclusion than the editor's remarks on Thanksgiving, printed on Dec. 20th, 1866.

THANKSGIVING

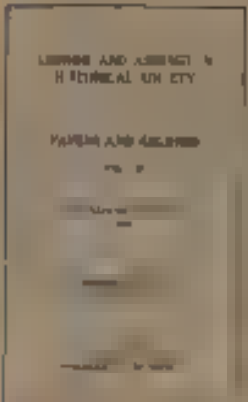
We had entertained the hope that in consideration of the great mercies and blessings with which our country has been favored during the present year, the Governor would have issued his proclamation appointing a day of national thanksgiving to the Father of mercies, but the year has so far gone that there is no probability such will be done. We exceedingly regret this, for in no year has the hand of providence been more visible in our protection than in that just drawing to a close. Menaced as we were at the beginning of this year with a formidable invasion, for which thousands have been expended, and great preparations were made, and in which so many were eager to join, even the most brave saw there was great danger, and but little probability that the effort would result in so little disaster to ourselves. Had not the hand of providence interposed in our behalf, and brought to conclusion the bloody designs of these wicked men, who does not feel that though they might have been vanquished and driven back again, yet it would have been a serious calamity to ourselves. Trace the history of those designs from their beginning to their failure and conviction is irresistible that our cause was defended by more than human wisdom. The immun-

ity with which we have escaped the dire ravages of the cholera, that threatened us at the beginning of this year, is a great cause of thankfulness. In various parts of Europe, in England, and near by us in the United States, thousands of families have been bereaved by its ravages; but here, with the exception of a very few cases, the cup of sorrow has been directed to pass by. The year has been one of unusual good health—a subject for profound gratitude.

The commercial prosperity of the year has not been among the smallest of our blessings. Twelve months ago our commercial prospects were not so cheerful as at the beginning of many former years. The Reciprocity Treaty, that appeared so necessary to our prosperity, was about to be abrogated; the close of the war in the United States threatened to bring with it many of those commercial evils that always follow a period of inflation; and the great financial crisis in England, that swept down many a house of long and honorable standing, all threatened us with more than usual misfortunes.

But notwithstanding all these things Canada has enjoyed a year of its greatest prosperity. An abundant harvest was given us, new openings for our trade were presented, prices have been remunerative; and at no time has our business relations at home and abroad presented a more cheering aspect.

Peace, health, and prosperity—all God's choicest blessings to any nation—demand our national thanksgiving, in a national way; and we deem it the duty of our government to set apart a day for this special purpose. Several of our churches have set apart and duly observed a day of Thanksgiving, but this was merely because there was none appointed for the whole land. If we claim to be a Christian nation, in which God is honored, and His blessings recognized, we should not fail to acknowledge it in a national manner.



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PAPERS AND REVIEWS

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PUBLISHED BY THE SOCIETY
1961

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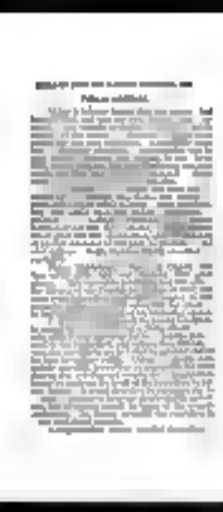

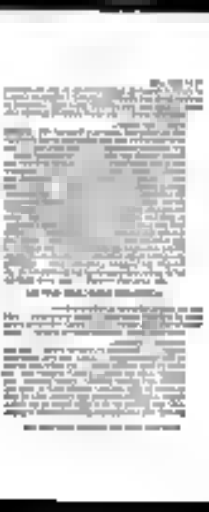

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